

Six more deaths in Chernobyl announced

MOSCOW (AP). — The government announced yesterday that six people have died of burns and radiation as a result of the Chernobyl nuclear accident and that 35 people are still in serious condition, nearly twice the previous official figure.

The six listed as dying appeared to be in addition to the two people who were previously reported to have died in the April 26 accident itself.

Yesterday's announcement from the Council of Ministers, which was distributed by the official news agency,

Soviet Jews have been seeking information from Israel on treatment to counteract the effects of radiation, following the Chernobyl accident in an area heavily populated by Jews. They have also inquired of Soviet ally supporters here whether they can get Geiger counters from Israel.

The USSR Jews intimated that Soviet citizens are barred from information about anti-radiation drugs. They noted that such medication is available in Poland and asked their friends here what medication is used in Poland and whether it can be obtained by Soviet citizens.

About 750,000 Jews live in the Ukraine, where Chernobyl is located.

cy Tass, marked the first new official report of deaths from the Chernobyl accident in nearly two weeks.

The announcement followed a report in *Pravda* yesterday that three senior officials of the Chernobyl plant had been disciplined.

Previous reports have said 18 radiation victims were in serious condition.

The announcement said that during the last 24 hours decontamination work was continuing at the plant 130 km. north of Kiev, as well as efforts to cool the damaged reactor and to build a cement "tomb" around its radioactive core.

"The radiation situation in Byelorussia and the Ukraine, including Kiev, is improving," the statement said.



President Herzog receives the torch to light the flame for Remembrance Day from Naomi Ameli, whose husband fell in the Sinai Campaign, in a ceremony last night at the Western Wall. At left is Chief of General Staff Rav-Aluf Moshe Levy. Behind Herzog is Aluf-Mishne Ramot, commander of the Jerusalem Brigade. (story page 2).

Herzog in Independence Day interview

Israel healthy, but must resist racism

By JUDY SIEGEL
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Although expressions of racism and intolerance here give cause for worry, Israel has proved itself as a "healthy, mature society" that has nothing to be ashamed of when compared with other heterogeneous countries, President Herzog told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday.

He was interviewed for Independence Day, whose theme this year is democracy.

The president said his decision to speak out frequently on tolerance and respect for minorities and commitment to democracy was not as a direct result of polls showing the popularity of any movement or party. Rather, he wanted to grapple with the theme publicly after discussing these matters with youth, with whom he speaks weekly in schools and community centres around the country, he said.

Most recently he reiterated this message in a speech opening Martyrs and Heroes Remembrance Day at Yad Vashem in Jerusalem last week. It is Israel's obligation to the memory of the Holocaust martyrs to stand up against even "the minutest contamination of darkness, evil, racism and wickedness," Herzog said.

"Israel must be the absolute denial of the theories of discrimination and racism, the loss of human dignity and the negation of man's honour, which was exemplified by our enemy."

The president says he speaks to (Continued on Page 2, Col. 6)

Libyans expel 36 European diplomats

LONDON (AP). — Libya, accusing Western Europe of bowing to U.S. pressure for anti-Libyan measures, yesterday announced the expulsion of 36 diplomats and staff from seven European Community embassies.

Libya Radio, monitored in London, said the expulsions were in retaliation for "the oppressive measures taken by European states, under pressure from the U.S."

The announcement came three weeks after the 12-nation European community (EC) agreed to back a U.S. campaign against alleged Libyan-backed terrorism by sharply reducing the number of Libyan diplomats in Europe and tightening controls on their movements.

Jana, the official Libyan news agency, said 17 West European diplomats and 19 other employees of the Italian Embassy, apparently non-diplomats, had been given between a week and 10 days to leave.

The expelled diplomats include six Italians, four West Germans, two Belgians, two Spaniards, and one each from France, Holland and Denmark, Jana said.

Greece, a community member which refused to take action against Libya, was not mentioned. Nor was Britain, which cut diplomatic ties with Libya in 1984 after a London policewoman was killed by a gunman firing from the Libyan Embassy at demonstrators outside.

Emplacements unmanned; no imminent threat

Syrians are fortifying S. Lebanon positions

By AVI HOFFMAN
Post Defence Reporter

The Syrians have been preparing the infrastructure for deploying units including armoured forces in south-east Lebanon, just north of IDF and South Lebanese Army forces in the South Lebanese security zone.

This development, reported yesterday for the first time, is viewed with concern by military observers and partly explains the tension of the past week. If manned, the observers point out, the Syrian emplacements would threaten the north of Israel. There are no signs, however, that the Syrians are preparing an immediate attack.

The preparation by Syrian Army engineers of fortifications, gun and tank emplacements and command areas has been going on for several months. The work is continuing, but as yet no combat troops or weapons have been moved in, the army spokesman said last night, confirming details of the report.



OC Northern Command, Aluf (Maj.-Gen.) Ori Orr, left, with the Unifil chief in southern Lebanon, General William Callaghan, at a reception given by Northern Command in Tiberias yesterday. (Leon Minster)

Official Israeli sources held up publication of the Syrian moves, hoping to resolve the matter by diplomatic means with the help of the U.S.

America's roving envoy Undersecretary of State Richard Murphy was sent to Damascus to try to persuade President Hafez Assad to dismantle the infrastructure — but to no avail.

The issue became public knowledge on Sunday night when NBC television broadcast in the U.S. that Israel had asked Washington to look into the reports of Syrian troop movements and building of tank emplacements in Lebanon. According to NBC, the Americans did not agree with the Israelis that the situation was "very serious."

The area, in the vicinity of Lake Karoun, was vacated one year ago by the IDF when it withdrew from Lebanon. At the time Israel warned Syria not to attempt to fill the vacuum.

Media reports of tension on both sides of the Israel-Syria border last week escalated into something of a war scare. Israeli leaders from the prime minister down attempted to defuse the tension by declaring that Israel has no aggressive designs on Syria.

Syria, suffering from an upsurge in internal violence culminating in a spate of bomb attacks in the capital, began to get the jitters after the U.S. air attack on Libya and the subsequent American warnings that other states supporting international terrorism would not be immune.

Damascus was identified as the backer of the terrorists responsible for the murder of American soldiers in West Germany and of the bomb attempt on an El Al plane at London airport. By now extremely nervous, the state-controlled Syrian media began talking of an Israeli-American plot to attack. Foreign media carried reports of tension on Israel's border with Syria and the war scare began.

It now seems that Damascus-backed terror is of lesser importance and the more potent threat to Israel is the Syrian military preparations just north of the South Lebanese security zone. If the Syrians deploy combat forces in the emplacements they are preparing, they will be in striking distance of northern Israel. Even without advancing, artillery using the gun emplacements now being prepared would have the range to hit Israeli targets.

This military threat becomes even more serious when it is coupled with the threat posed by the surface-to-air missiles (Sam) batteries deployed just inside Syria's border with Lebanon. Ever since their deployment late last year these missiles have impeded the Israel Air Force's freedom of flight over Lebanon.

Military observers noted that the Syrian emplacements are primarily (Continued on Page 2, Col. 1)

Treasury wants increase in bus fares

Fuel prices down this week but some food may cost more

By AVI TEMKIN
Post Economic Reporter

Drivers filling their tanks from Thursday at midnight will find that a litre of petrol will cost them less than 90 agorot, as fuel prices fall by 12 per cent. Electricity bills will also be considerably reduced and industrialists will pay much less for their fuel. But not everything will be good news for the consumer. The Treasury is determined to cut subsidies by the end of the week and has planned the cut in fuel prices to coincide with this. The hike will not be reflected in the cost-of-living index since the drop in fuel prices will offset the hikes in the prices of subsidized goods.

Energy Minister Shalom and Finance Minister Nissim decided on the cuts yesterday. The price of petrol will go down by 12 per cent, the price of electricity by 7 per cent, and the price of heavy fuel supplied to the Electric Corporation will go down by 28 per cent. Former finance minister Moda'i had had difficulty in agreeing with Shalom, but the new finance minister had no trouble in reaching a rapid understanding with

the energy minister on the rates of price cuts.

Both ministers agreed that the price reduction should be aimed primarily at helping domestic industry, and therefore reduced the price of fuel for industry markedly. The petrochemical industries will pay 30 per cent less for their heavy fuel, and industry will pay 17 per cent less.

As of Thursday midnight, the price of 91 octane will stand at 74 agorot, and 96 octane will be 84 agorot.

Although the Treasury did not release an official statement, it is expected that the drop in fuel prices will be accompanied by a parallel increase in the prices of subsidized basic foodstuffs. In addition, the cabinet could be asked next week to approve a hike in the prices of public transportation. So far, this increase has been prevented by the stiff opposition by Transport Minister Haim Coria.

Treasury officials said fuel makes up only 10 per cent of the cost of public transportation, so the cut in petrol prices has almost no influence on the cost of public busing.

Mizrahi's Meir expected to resign soon

By PINHAS LANDAU
TEL AVIV. — Aharon Meir, managing director of Bank Mizrahi, is expected to hand in his resignation to the bank's board of directors at their next meeting, scheduled for Sunday. Meir left Israel yesterday for a three-day business trip.

Following Bank Leumi chairman Ernest Japhet's resignation on Sunday night, financial circles here view the resignation of Meir as an almost foregone conclusion. That of Discount chairman Raphael Recanat, though, is regarded as more problematic, although it, too, is expected.

The new men at the top at Bank Leumi — Pages 3 and 11

Meir's successor at Bank Mizrahi will come from among the senior officials within the bank, a well-placed source said.

The appointment will have to be approved by the World Mizrahi Organisation, which holds a controlling interest in the bank, comparable to the role of Hevrat Ha'ovdim in Bank Hapoalim and the Jewish Agency in Bank Leumi.

Government grants used by West Bank settlers for political activities

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT
Post Defence Reporter

The Interior Ministry has been effectively funding the political activities of West Bank settlers through the general-purpose funds it provides to the Kiryat Arba local council, the State Comptroller said in his report this week on the Civil Administration of the territories.

The comptroller found that Kiryat Arba spent thousands of dollars in 1983 and 1984 to fund demonstrations, legal protection for settlers and spying on West Bank Arabs and their Israeli sympathizers.

"Every year the Interior Ministry approves a grant to the council to balance its budget," the comptroller noted, and the grant generally provides the bulk of council funds. In 1983, ministry subventions accounted for IS 106,000 of Kiryat Arba's IS 164,000 budget; in 1984, it made up IS 508,000 of the community's IS 874,000 budget.

The council has provided a satisfactory level of educational, health, security and other services, although it dumped its garbage in an unfenced area close to Arab homes, the comptroller said.

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COMPTROLLER
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The council also paid considerable sums to further the settlers' political goals.

It allocated \$10,000 to a Jerusalem lawyer to act on behalf of residents accused of crimes with a "political background," such as vandalizing Arab property in Halhoul. It also contributed IS 250,000 to the council of Jewish settlements in Judea, Samaria and Gaza for legal assistance to residents detained after "reacting" to Arab attacks.

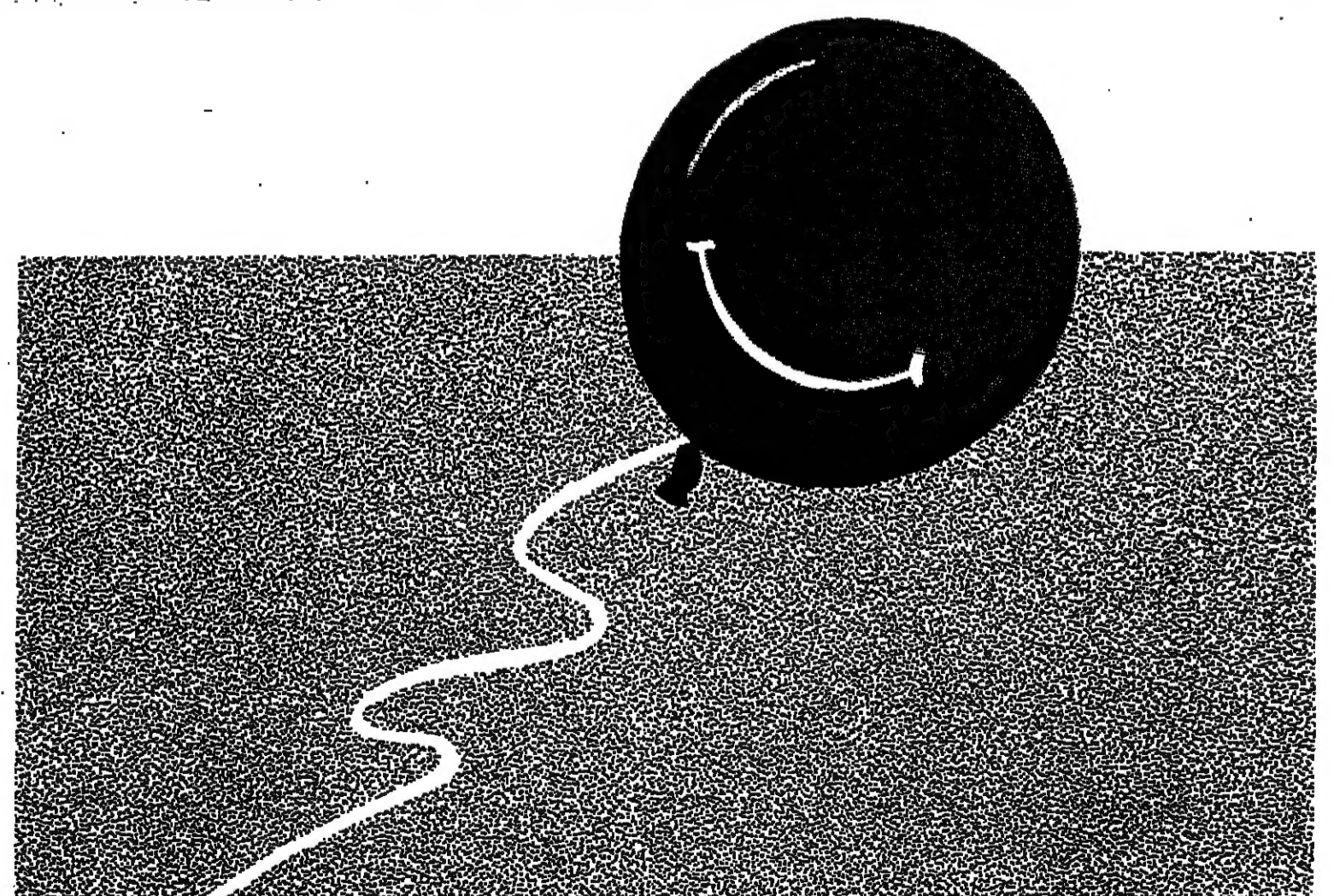
Rabbi Moshe Levinger's long-running one-man demonstration outside the Dheisheh refugee camp south of Bethlehem was aided by a \$5,000 council allocation partly designed to publicize his action. This money was allocated over and above other assistance, such as a rented car, food and other services.

The council paid \$750 to a private investigating firm to collect information on Bir Zeit University near Ramallah and on a committee that supports it. Some of the committee's members are Israeli citizens, the comptroller noted.

Other expenditures included an outlay of IS 600,000 for 30 mattresses for women holding a sit-in in Jerusalem to press for the release of the Jewish terrorists. One month earlier, in June 1985, the council paid for buses to bring demonstrators to Jerusalem to protest against the release of Arab terrorists.

When the authorities found that the employees of the Kiryat Arba local council owed IS 1.4m. in back taxes, they ordered the council to deduct the tax from the employee's paycheques. The council did, but (Continued on Page 11)

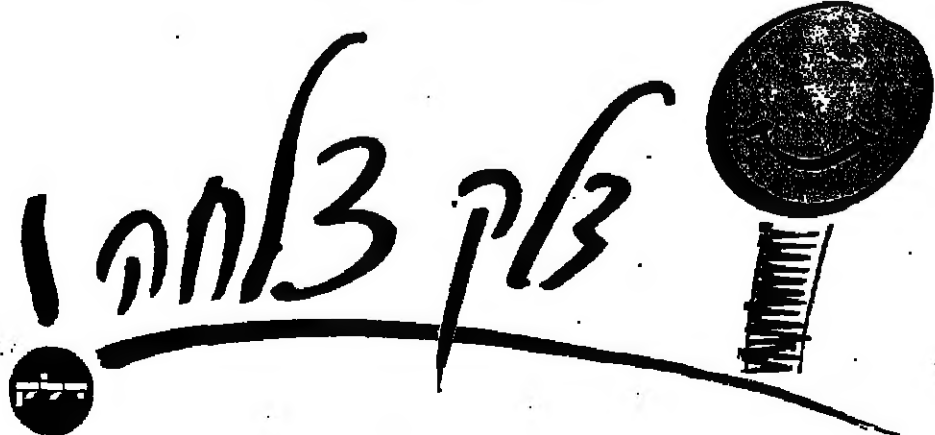
THE JERUSALEM POST
The Jerusalem Post will not be published tomorrow, Independence Day. The next issue will appear on Thursday.



Happy Independence Day.

Whether driving on the highways
Or walking in the by-ways,
Whether going off to roam
Or relaxing in your home,
Whether dancing in the streets
Or sampling nature's treats,

Wherever you are,
"Delek" — The Israel Fuel Corporation
Sends you festive Yom Ha'atzma'ut greetings
As Israel enters its 39th year.



The weather at major Swissair destinations

U.S. \$6

	MIN.	C	F	MAX.
AMSTERDAM	9	12	54	16
BRUSSELS	10	13	55	17
BUDAPEST	8	11	52	15
COPENHAGEN	11	14	57	19
FRANKFURT	10	13	55	17
GENEVA	8	11	52	15
HELSINKI	6	9	48	12
HONG KONG	24	28	82	32
JERUSALEM	15	18	64	21
LONDON	10	13	55	17
MADRID	15	18	64	21
MONTREAL	8	11	52	15
NEW YORK	16	19	66	22
PARIS	10	13	55	17
SAO PAULO	22	25	77	30
STOCKHOLM	13	16	61	19
TOKYO	17	20	68	23
TORONTO	7	10	50	13
VIENNA	10	13	55	17
ZURICH	9	12	54	16

*For the latest weather conditions contact Swissair.

Swissair flights to Jerusalem from Zurich, Tel Aviv, Frankfurt, Munich, London, Paris, Rome, Athens, and other European cities. Swissair also flies to Jerusalem from New York, Los Angeles, and other U.S. cities.

THE WEATHER

Forecast: Scattered showers.

	Yesterday's	Today's	Max.
Jerusalem	62	12-18	15
Golan	76	8-17	16
Nahariya	—	14-19	19
Safed	73	9-15	15
Haifa Port	—	—	—
Thessalon	58	15-22	21
Nazareth	72	12-18	17
Afula	70	12-20	19
Shomron	66	10-19	17
Tel Aviv	72	14-22	21
B-G Airport	68	14-22	21
Jericho	42	13-27	25
Gaza	69	16-21	21
Beerseba	51	16-24	22
Eilat	33	18-27	26

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

President Herzog and his wife Aura yesterday hosted a lunch at Beit Hanassi in honour of the non-resident Irish Ambassador Charles Whelan and his wife, who arrived here from Athens.

DEPARTURES

World Wizo Executive chairwoman Michal Mod'ani on a Wizo mission to Australia and New Zealand.

SYRIANS

(Continued from Page One)

defensive. But, according to Soviet military doctrine which heavily influences the Syrian armed forces, they could speedily be turned into a platform for attack.

The Syrians are apparently applying the lessons they learned during Israel's war in Lebanon, when they were caught and smashed in unfortified positions.

It was also noted that a Syrian deployment just north of the security zone could boost terrorist activities against Israel. While Damascus is wary of allowing terrorists to cross its border with Israel to carry out attacks, it had no such compunctions against aiding anti-Israel terrorist actions originating in Lebanon.

Asher Wolfish adds:

The Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee concluded yesterday that media reports about the security situation were disproportionate.

The committee held an unusually long 3½ hour meeting with senior IDF officers.

At the same time, the committee announced, it would continue to monitor the situation closely. It intends to hear a report from Defence Minister Rabin next Tuesday.

The acting commander of the UN-dof forces on the Golan said yesterday that his soldiers had "seen no sign of any unusual activity" on either the Israeli or Syrian side of the cease-fire lines. "All is quiet, and activity is normal," he insisted.

OC Northern Command Aluf Ori Orr said that "all over the world people are talking about a possible war with Syria, but we don't believe that this will happen — neither our military nor our political leaders."

In Washington, the Reagan administration yesterday continued to try to ease the tensions between Israel and Syria.

The State Department again maintained the U.S. knows of "no objective reason for hostilities to break out between Israel and Syria."

HOME AND FOREIGN NEWS

The nation remembers, prepares to celebrate independence

President Herzog lights the memorial flame

By JOEL REBIBO

President Herzog last night took a torch from Naomi Amely, whose husband fell 30 years ago in the Sinai Campaign, and lit the flame in memory of the nearly 10,000 men and women killed in hostile action since the founding of the state, in the opening ceremony of Remembrance Day at the Western Wall in Jerusalem.

Zev Bar, whose son was killed in the first days of the Lebanon war, was chosen with Amely to represent the bereaved families.

"On a day like today, everyone has a heavy heart," said Amely. "But during the rest of the year, not everyone remembers that it's because of those who fell that we are able to live here."

Seren Yerahmiel Amely, born in Bialystok, Poland in 1917, came to

Palestine in 1938 but returned to Europe during World War II to fight with the British Army. He fought in the War of Independence and commanded the unit that helped conquer Eilat. He enjoyed listening to music, particularly to opera and cantorial pieces. Amely, an artillery officer, was killed in the Gaza Strip in 1956, leaving a widow and a 21-month-old son.

Zev Bar, whose son Doron fell at age 19, recited the mourner's prayer. Two minutes before he was killed, Doron was writing a letter home in which he said: "War is hell and cruel. Let us hope that we will arrive peacefully at home."

According to his father, assistant head of Yad Le'banim, the organization for bereaved families, the days approaching Remembrance Day and Independence Day are most

difficult for these families.

At the conclusion of last night's ceremony, which included words of condolence from Chief of General Staff Rav-Aluf Moshe Levy, and a presentation of the honour guard, several of the thousands attending the ceremony sounded the shofar.

A siren will sound today at 11 a.m. marking a moment of silence. At that time, ceremonies will be held at the Mt. Herzl military cemetery and at other military cemeteries and memorial sites around the country.

Independence Day will begin tonight with the official torch-lighting ceremony at Mt. Herzl. To mark 30 years since the Sinai Campaign, all of the commanders who fought in 1956 have been invited to a reception at Beit Hanassi on Independence Day.

Weather may put damper on outings

Jerusalem Post Staff

Israelis planning picnics, tours and other outdoor celebrations for Independence Day will have to contend with the scattered showers and lower-than-usual temperatures forecast for the holiday.

The duty weatherman at Beit Dagon said last night that rain could fall today and tomorrow in many parts of the country, but may not last long enough to spoil an entire outing. Nevertheless, a number of outdoor events in the north have been cancelled, including the Israel Philharmonic concert on Mt. Hermon planned by the Nature Protection Society.

Independence Day begins tonight at 6:45 p.m. with the opening ceremony on Mt. Herzl in Jerusalem, which will be televised. The 12

beacons will be lit by people representing aspects of democracy in Israel, the theme of this year's holiday.

The 12 people are former MK Zerah Whittington, a sign of the Declaration of Independence; former Supreme Court president Moshe Landau; Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek, representing local government; Prof. Alice Shalvi, principal of Jerusalem's Pelech school, representing education for democracy; Moshe Pines, professor of Arabic literature, representing Arab-Jewish understanding; Yehoshua Teitelbaum, a former journalist with Ha'aretz; Yohanan Ben-Ya'akov, chairman of the youth movements council; Samir Darwish, head of the Baka al-Gharbiya local council, representing Arab local government; Zviya Bar-Zeev of Netivot, representing voluntary organizations; Shlomo Zamir, a Dimona policeman; Iris Levy, the head of the pupils council in Beit She'an; and Rav-Seren Nudel Nizman, an officer in the Golan Brigade, representing the army's role in a democracy.

Teiyya MK Genuis Cohen yesterday objected to the selection of

democracy as this year's theme, and to including someone in the main ceremony from Baka al-Gharbiya, several of whose residents are suspected of murdering a soldier.

The celebrations will begin tonight in many areas with fireworks, outdoor entertainment and dancing in the streets.

Bus routes will run on a reduced schedule during the holiday.

In keeping with this year's theme, the Knesset will be open to visitors tomorrow from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The original scroll of the Declaration of Independence will be displayed as part of a special exhibit on this event.

IDF bases, military industries plants and exhibits of military equipment will be open to the public at various locations around the country.

Shamir calls for curb on attorney-general

By RON JOURARD

Vice Premier Shamir yesterday called for "limiting the wide powers of the attorney-general," setting off a strong wave of reactions among Knesset Members and legal experts.

Shamir, who was speaking to political correspondents in Jerusalem, also said that the Likud would oppose the appointment of a political figure — especially a Knesset member — to the office of attorney-general, to replace Yitzhak Zamir.

The vice premier, along with other Likud politicians, has expressed dissatisfaction with several of Zamir's decisions and opinions. For example, Shamir reportedly called "scandalous" Zamir's decision last August to seek stiffer sentences against several members of the Jewish terrorist underground.

David Liba'i (Labour), a law professor at Tel Aviv University and a member of the Knesset Legislation Committee, said that he "vigorously opposes any infringement of the attorney-general's powers, since that would undermine the

rule of law."

By calling for the weakening of the institution that epitomizes law enforcement, Shamir displayed ignorance of the "fundamental concepts of the rule of law," Liba'i said.

David Kretzmer, a professor at the Hebrew University Law Faculty, noted that the Israeli institution of the attorney-general is envied in other legal systems. "In a country that is largely politicized, the institution of the attorney-general — with its tradition of impartiality — is a source of strength," he added.

Kretzmer, however, welcomed Shamir's statement that the Likud would oppose the appointment of a politician to the post.

Avner Shaki (National Religious Party), also a member of the Knesset Legislation Committee, recommended that the attorney-general's term be limited, possibly to the tenure of the government. He also recommended that the attorney-general's powers, which are set out in various laws, be concentrated in one law and be made clearer.

Shaki said that the attorney-general's discretionary powers to try persons suspected of supporting the PLO or of inciting to racism, for example, ought to be more clearly defined.

Likud MK Ehud Olmert insisted that the attorney-general's powers as they are established in the law, should be left unchanged. But his activity beyond that should be restricted, he said. "There is no need or justification for the attorney-general to take part in cabinet meetings, or for his involvement in economic and political matters," he said.

Olmert added that the lack of resolution by government ministers has enabled the attorney-general to assume a more dominant role. "The government dithers and does not fulfill its job, thus opening the door for the attorney-general to do what the cabinet should be doing."

For instance, he said, when the government — "for lack of courage" — could not decide on the allocation of funds to religious institutions, it handed the matter over to the attorney-general.

Balas held further 7 days



David Balas in court yesterday.

(Brutmann)

By YORAM GAZIT

TEL AVIV. — Financiers David Balas and Zvi Aharoni, charged with fraud in connection with the "grey market" investment funds they received from the United Kibbutz Movement had their remands extended for seven days yesterday in the Tel Aviv District Court. The decision on whether to remand them until the end of the case was postponed.

The attorneys of Balas and Aharoni previously agreed to a seven-day remand, on condition that they be released on bail. However, the prosecution argued that they should be remanded until the end of their trial, due to the seriousness of the charges.

The prosecution also said that Balas should be kept in custody in order to prevent him from influencing witnesses, obstructing the investigation, or escaping from the country.

Prosecutor Pinna Devorin presented the court with two letters, allegedly written by Balas and smuggled out of prison in his laundry.

The letters were written to Police Minister Haim Bar-Lev, and were supposed to be delivered by Balas's driver.

Knesset urged to debate nuclear energy

Jerusalem Post Reporter

MK Yair Tzaban (Mapam) called on the Knesset yesterday to debate the question of nuclear energy plants during the upcoming summer session, as he released government documents likening a nuclear plant to a "Trojan horse."

Meanwhile, spokesmen for the Energy Ministry reacted to the state comptroller's comments on the issue in his report, saying the matter is being treated "with all due respect."

However, Energy officials pointed out that the comptroller's comparison of price figures, in which the cost of producing a kilowatt of nuclear energy was estimated at \$2,000 compared to \$850 for a kilowatt of coal energy, was misleading because it only takes fixed costs into account.

In the long run, the cheaper operating costs of a nuclear plant due to lower fuel costs narrow the price gap between the two energy sources, they said.

According to documents released by Tzaban, a team of experts at the Treasury and Energy Ministries rejected the proposal to build nuclear plants in Israel even before Prime Minister Peres's 1984 trip to Paris. "But this did not prevent continued contacts regarding the purchase of a plant (from France)."

Quoting senior officials Itamar Givon, Dr. Ron Mosenson, David Mishali and Dan Zeffelski, he said they had "determined unequivocally" that nuclear energy is not an option for Israel, both for economic reasons and because of the size of the country.

As a small country, we cannot take the risk of a fire in a plant or a strike by enemy forces," Tzaban's report said.

"A cunning enemy would plant a Trojan horse in the form of a nuclear power plant," Mishali said.

Zeffelski also rejected the pro-nuclear argument that nuclear energy would make Israel less dependent on foreign fuels, saying it would have the contrary effect.

Tzaban has called for a vigorous national debate on the issue, especially given the recent accident at the Chernobyl plant, the slowdown and cutback in nuclear plant construction in the U.S. and the state comptroller's conclusions.

The comptroller, who based much of his report on the 1980 study by former Haifa Technion president Amos Horev, pointed out the problems of cooling a reactor, ensuring its safety and removing waste products.

The comptroller also cited the negative opinion of the former chief scientist in the Energy Ministry, who suggested increasing exploitation of solar energy, wind energy and the burning of shale oil, garbage and agricultural waste as possible alternatives to the nuclear option.

Two Jewish terrorists to be released today

TEL MOND (Itim). — Two members of the Jewish terror underground are to be released this morning, with the completion of their sentences. The president previously reduced their sentences by one year, replacing it with two years on probation.

Gilad Peli, 32, and Yehoshua Ben-Shoshan, 36, both of Jerusalem, were convicted of criminal conspiracy and membership in a terror organization.

Seven members of the Jewish terror underground are still at Tel Mond, three of them serving life sentences.



U.S. Attorney-General Edwin Meese plants a tree yesterday at the JNF American Independence Forest near Jerusalem, in memory of his son Scott, who was killed in an automobile accident in 1982.

(Yossi Zamir)

U.S. attorney-general visits Yad Vashem

Meese promises evidence against Nazi war criminals

By ERNIE MEYER

Jerusalem Post Reporter

U.S. Attorney-General Edwin Meese visited Yad Vashem yesterday, and promised to help supply Israel with evidence against Nazi war criminals.

However, he did not bring with him the documents on Nazi war criminals which he had promised to deliver to Yad Vashem. They will be sent later, he said.

Meese, his wife Ursula and daughter Dana, accompanied by U.S. Ambassador Thomas Pickering,

spent 90 minutes touring Yad Vashem exhibits. Meese laid a wreath of carnations and daisies by the symbolic mass grave of the six million, while his wife and daughter stood with their heads bowed.

After the tour Meese had a private meeting with Netanyahu's chief rabbi Yisrael Lau, who had accompanied him to Yad Vashem.

Later in the day the Meeses went to the American JNF forest near Ness Harim to plant a tree in memory of their son Scott, who was killed in a car accident in 1982.

Plea against flag-burning by zealots

By HAIM SHAPIRO

Jerusalem Post Reporter

As most of the country prepares for Independence Day tonight, one group of Jerusalem residents has issued a plea to stop the burning of the Israeli flag.

The plea comes from the Citizens Council against Ultra-Orthodox violence, which claims that the flag-burning occurs every Independence Day in ultra-Orthodox neighborhoods. They have written to the attorney general and the police minister asking them to take action

to stop it and to the Rabbinical Court of the Eda Haredit, asking them to ban their followers from participating in such a spectacle.

Meanwhile, in Jerusalem's ultra-Orthodox Mea Shearim neighborhood, notices have already gone up calling upon the public not to participate in any form of celebration for the "Zionist holiday" or even to watch an Independence Day celebration. Instead, they are called upon to take part in a demonstration due to be held tonight on behalf of the attorney general and the police minister asking them to take action

ISRAEL HEALTHY

(Continued from Page One)

Arab Israelis about racism and tolerance "no less" than to Jewish audiences.

The proper way to treat a minority is "laid down specifically in the Torah in very imperative language and repeated again and again." He noted that his father, the late chief rabbi Isaac Halevy Herzog, and his predecessor, the late chief rabbi Avraham Yitzhak HaCohen Kook, held that the precept of the Torah applied to the attitude towards the Arab minority today.

unpopular." He added that he "doesn't understand the present attitude of many rabbis on the subject."

Maimonides laid down that members of the Sanhedrin, the halachic authority of ancient times, must have a general education, be well versed in languages and even have a "knowledge of idolatry," so that they can more easily refute it. This view is not applied in the rabbinical world today, he said.

Herzog, who was verbally attacked personally and as president at the Kach convention in Jerusalem several months ago, is certain that support for Meir Kahane and his ideology is on the wane and that the Kach MK has personally been discredited. "If it weren't for the financial support of a small number of American Jews and the comparative silence of the official American Jewish community, he'd be even further down the scale."

Israel's education system is partly at fault for the anti-democratic views of some young people, but it can also provide the remedy for this situation, says the president. He is personally in favour of Jewish-Arab meetings, even of young people.

"They have to get to know each other. I have enough confidence in the strength of our Jewish tradition and identity in Israel. I believe that we have nothing to fear from other philosophies and faiths. If we don't have enough confidence in ourselves, something is very wrong with our educational system."

Herzog urges that schools start debating societies for pupils, both Jewish and Arab, and in informal get-togethers, so that proper democratic models can be provided for youths.

"In England, debates on political subjects are common at every level of one's education. The art of debate, of speaking and of attempting to see the other's case is natural in England." He has raised this proposal with a number of educators and hopes it will be implemented.

My dear husband, our father, grandfather and brother

HELMUT FRIEDMANN

left us forever on May 12, 1986.

In the name of the whole family in Israel and abroad:

Eilisebeth Friedmann

The funeral will take place today, May 13, 1986, at 1.00 p.m. at Kfar Samir. A bus will leave at 12.25 p.m. from Moriah St., corner Zerubavel St., opposite Kupat Holim, and be at the B'nai B'rith Parents Home at 12.30 p.m.

IN THE SUPREME COURT
SITTING AS THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
High Court of Justice case 267/86
THE HONORABLE JUSTICE G. BACK
JEFFREY RIBACK

BEFORE:
THE PETITIONER: Versus
THE RESPONDENT: Devorah Joyce Riback (nee Glicksman)

DECREE NISI AND INTERIM INJUNCTION

On the basis of this petition brought today before this Court, this Court orders that a Decree Nisi be issued by the Court, addressed to the Respondent, which instructs her to present herself before the Court and to show cause:

Why she should not bring the minor children Zanon Alan Riback, Rosanna Fina Riback and Angelique Nicolette Riback to this Court, in order that they be delivered into the custody of the Petitioner for the purpose of returning them to South Africa.

Likewise the Court orders that an order be issued by the Court addressed to the Respondent forbidding her and the above children from leaving the area of the jurisdiction of the State of Israel before the termination of this petition, and which instructs her to deposit her passport and the passports of the children with the Israeli Police.

The Respondent will submit her response, if she so desires, within 21 days of the date of receipt of this notice, to the Court and directly to the Petitioner.

Given this day, 13 Nissan 5746 (April 22, 1986).

Shmuel Tzur
Registrar

A copy of the above petition and its annexures may be obtained from the offices of Advocates Marcus Mandel and Co., 5 Druyanov St., Tel Aviv, during office hours 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Sunday to Thursday.

We regret to announce the death of
YORAM BEN-YOSEPH
ELIAHU CHELOUCHE ז"ל

who was one of the first children born in Tel Aviv

Che louche, Kaplan, Munkper and Fogel Families

The funeral will take place on Thursday, May 15, 1986, leaving at 2.30 p.m. from the new gate of Holon Cemetery. The family will sit shiva at the home of Shlomo Chelouch, 16 Heshin, Tel Aviv.

By PINHAS LANDAU
You have to hand it to Bank Leumi. The transfer of power may have been belated, even reluctant. But when it was done, they did it cleanly, properly—and openly.

The media vultures, who had picked up the faint scent of imminent boardroom blood the night before, began to gather early outside Bank Leumi headquarters. On a normal evening, Rehov Yehuda Halevi is deserted after business hours, but the television crew and their sprawling equipment made it apparent that this was no normal evening.

Across the road, the Bank Discount building was dark as a tomb. Their board, too, was supposed to be meeting, but as the reporters complained to each other in the course of their vigil, Discount's management had gone underground. They would talk to no one, and nobody knew where they were, or what they were up to.

The one that counted, however, was Leumi, the biggest and most powerful of the Israeli banks. And power was what was being given and taken away, in the room where the lights were burning, several floors up.

Arye Dulzín made things plain when he spoke to

Changing the guard at Bank Leumi

reporters before even going in to the board meeting scheduled to begin at 8:30 p.m. Dulzín is chairman of the Jewish Agency, and the Jewish Agency—when all is said and done—is the owner of Bank Leumi. So Dulzín's statement to Israel Television that Ernest Japhet was going to resign and (off the cuff to the press) that Eli Hurvitz was to replace him, left little room for speculation. But \$22 billion worth of assets and a worldwide empire has its own drawing power, so Dulzín's disclosure merely began the drama, instead of ending it.

For two hours nothing happened. The television technicians, down from Jerusalem for the occasion, gave up at 10:30 p.m., packed up their equipment and went home. Then the action started.

First came the spokesmen, this time giving out a prepared statement, instead of the cups of coffee they had thoughtfully provided earlier on. The statement made Dulzín's statements official: Japhet

was out. Hurvitz, in as chairman, and Mordechai Einhorn moved up from chief operating officer to chief executive officer—the man who runs the bank. The flesh and blood behind the dry words soon followed the statement through the doors.

Advocate Ori Slonim, who had represented Japhet and the bank before the Bejski Commission, emerged first. But his day was done; the vultures pecked at him without appetite. Then came Dulzín with some juicy morsels. Yes, Hurvitz had been the sole candidate for the chairmanship. No, he had not been unanimously approved. Other resignations of board members could not be ruled out; nor could the possibility of Japhet's remaining in the Leumi group in some as-yet-undecided capacity.

What he did not say was that he himself had abstained from approving Hurvitz's appointment; he had wanted to promote the candidacy of his fellow-New Liberal Centre Party leader, Yisrael

Peled, the ex-mayor of Ramat Gan. Peled has no banking experience and his suggested candidacy had aroused a mixture of mirth and horror. Dulzín's power, it appeared, was rather more limited than the Jewish Agency's formal voting position actually warranted.

Dulzín left and, almost incredibly for mid-May in Tel Aviv, it started raining. Some wag claimed that "somebody up there is crying for Japhet" while a more down-to-earth reporter complained his notes were being erased.

Then Hurvitz waded out into the drizzle and the flood of questions. Alone, except for the charisma he always carries with him and the power he had just picked up, he answered questions for a few minutes. Yes, he was going to give up his posts as president of the Manufacturers' Association and chairman of the Economic Organizations, but no, not the managing-directorship of Teva. No, he would not

be an executive chairman—Einhorn would be chief executive officer—he would be active, devoting half his time to the bank.

Einhorn himself made a high-speed getaway from the underground car-park and was gone before anyone could throw a word at him. He seemed to be grinning, but then he, at least, had something to grin about.

Bank secretary Avraham Sullam drove out in a more leisurely manner and engaged the press in friendly banter, drawing them away from the front door.

At that point—it was nearly 11:30 p.m.—Japhet chose to emerge with his aides in tow. He might even have got clean through, had this reporter not been playing sweepster in front of goal.

Japhet was upset, but not overwrought. He fielded an opening barrage of questions with his old aplomb, answering everything but saying nothing. Suddenly, the reporters caught on and the questions dried up. There was nothing left to say.

The former boss was escorted to his car and driven away, leaving the press standing in the wet street, grasping rain-stained notes and the new reality.



Health Minister Mordechai Gur with the test-tube twins whose birth he attended in Tel Aviv yesterday. (Israel Sun)

Gur pledges bigger budgets to help childless couples

By JUDY SIEGEL

Jerusalem Post Reporter
Health Minister Mordechai Gur, present yesterday at the birth of twin test-tube babies in Tel Aviv, promised increased budgets to help childless couples have children.

Gur attended the Caesarian birth of a 3.2 kilo girl and a 2.8 kilo boy—the children of Iris and Eitan Bar of Rishon LeZion. It was the second birth of test-tube twins at the Kirya Hospital within a week. Less than 10 months ago, the government hospital started offering *in vitro* fertilization, and nine months after the programme began, the hospital's first test-tube baby was born.

The minister, after congratulating the 30-year-old mother, said that 20,000 Israeli couples suffer from infertility, but only 6,000 have gone for treatment and been diagnosed.

The rest are not aware that treatment may help them, he said.

The Bars have been childless for seven years, with Iris getting pregnant after only one fertilization treatment outside the womb.

Gur said that he had no doubt there will be a positive decision by the ministry to provide special grants for increasing fertility. This would be switched, he said, in view of Sunday's discussion in the cabinet on the shrinking world Jewish population and the Arab fertility in Israel and the territories.

He added that because of budget and staff shortages, 6,000 couples are waiting for test-tube fertilization, each treatment costing some \$2,000.

"Fertility is like aliyah, except that the babies are genuine blue-and-white," Gur declared.

HU professor calls for more creches, maternity benefits

By TSIPPI KUPER

For The Jerusalem Post
More creches and maternity benefits for longer periods are two possible steps to encourage parents to "go forth and multiply," according to Prof. Roberto Bacchi, of the Hebrew University's Department of Contemporary Jewish.

Bacchi, who presented the cabinet on Sunday with a survey on the shrinking Jewish population in Israel and the Diaspora, told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday that there is a need for an overall policy to reverse the demographic trends.

He also said he believed financial incentives could encourage parents to bring up large families.

According to his department's survey, in 1983, Israeli Jewish women had an average of 2.77 children. "If it falls below 2.1 there will be zero natural growth among Israeli Jews," Bacchi said.

In comparison, Moslem women had an average of 5.31 children.

The most important considera-

tion for any demographic policy is to enable women to work outside the home and to raise children at the same time," he said. This means developing a network of creches and day-care centres in neighbourhoods and in places of work. He also suggested extending National Insurance Institute maternity benefits to a year, rather than the present three months.

Bacchi does not believe NII child allowances have in the past played a role in family planning. "We have no conclusive evidence to support this," he said. "The question is whether we can in future give allowances which are high enough to become an incentive."

Taxing child allotments and cancelling the benefit for the family's first child—steps taken over the past year—may have an adverse effect on population growth, said Bacchi. These moves tell the public that the government does not think encouraging larger families is a high priority.

Warhaftig—looking back on 38 years

By JOEL REBIBO

Zerah Warhaftig was trapped in Jerusalem along with 100,000 other Jews when the State of Israel was proclaimed on May 14, 1948. Several weeks later, by way of the secret Burma Road, Warhaftig made it to David Ben-Gurion's Tel Aviv office and signed the declaration he helped draft as a Mizrahi member of the Va'ad Leumi.

"The moment I entered his office he ran to me with a pen and told me to sign near his name," Warhaftig recalled in an interview with *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday. "I was a bit surprised. I had expected at least some preliminaries."

Warhaftig, a member of the provisional government, was elected to the First Knesset on the Hapoel Hamizrachi—later NRP list where he continued to serve for 33 uninterrupted years. From 1960 to 1974 he held the post of religious affairs minister.

Last night he represented the signers of the declaration of independence when he lit one of 12 torches on Mt. Herzl.

Is today's Israel the Israel he envisioned when he signed the Declaration of Independence 38 years ago?

"It is more than I expected and less than I hoped for," he answers after a long pause. "We have succeeded in many areas and failed in many areas."

Warhaftig counts among the successes Israel's growth from 600,000 to 3.5 million Jews, the successful



Zerah Warhaftig (Israel Sun)

absorption of immigrants, the development of "one of the world's finest" agricultural and high-technology industries, a strong IDF and a solid educational system.

The failures, he says, are spiritual. "We are very far from even the minimal spiritual standards." "Back then, we all had a sense that Shabbat in Israel should be something special," he recalls. "There may have been differences of opinion about how to preserve its character, but it clearly had to be something special."

He is also disappointed by Israel's failure to inspire more immigration. Warhaftig, 79, has not slowed down since his retirement from government life. Active with talmudic research and as chairman of Bar-Ilan University's executive board, he had no time for further questions about the Israel of today.

Organizers of tomorrow night's opening ceremony are dismayed by his refusal to join an afternoon rehearsal.

"I've already made other plans," he says.

Shcharansky's emotion-packed New York rally

By WALTER RUBY

Jerusalem Post Correspondent
NEW YORK.—Anatoly Shcharansky's appearance on Sunday before an unprecedented crowd of 300,000, was a notably moving occasion. Apparently ignoring advice from some Jewish leaders, Shcharansky called on the U.S. not to abandon the Jackson-Vanik Amendment which denies the Soviet Union the possibility to trade freely with the U.S. until the American president certifies that the Soviets are making progress on human rights.

Speaking at the annual Solidarity Sunday Rally for Soviet Jews, which his wife Avital had appeared at for many years in the past to urge his release, Shcharansky also implored the crowd not to forget non-Jewish dissidents in the Soviet Union like Andrei Sakharov and Yuri Orlov, whom he said had "raised their voices for Soviet Jews."

Shcharansky told the crowd, "As a Zionist and as a Jew I never forget the call for universal justice that is at the very root of our Jewish identity."

Shcharansky's appearance brought a sustained roar from the



Anatoly Shcharansky

crowd which filled Dag Hammarskjöld Plaza in front of the U.N., and the crowd was considerably larger than in recent years. Shcharansky clasped his hands above his head, and appeared moved as the waves of applause washed over him. Then he led the enormous audience in songs such as *Hine Ma Tov*, *Shalom Aleichem*, and *Gesher Tzar Meod*.

Among the political leaders with Shcharansky on a sunny afternoon were Assistant Secretary of State John Whitehead, New York Governor Mario Cuomo, New York Senators Daniel Patrick Moynihan and Alfonse D'Amato, Mayor Ed Koch, New York Cardinal John O'Connor, many congressmen and leaders of the Soviet Jewry movement. Shcharansky was introduced to the crowd by Israel's Ambassador to the U.N. Binyamin Netanyahu.

In a voice often breaking with emotion, Shcharansky told the crowd, "Brothers and sisters, every year Avital spoke here, she told you your efforts are not in vain. The fact that I am speaking here to you today is the best proof she was right... Your solidarity is the necessary condition for the survival of Soviet Jewry."

Urging the audience not to forget such longtime refuseniks as Ida Nudel, Vladimir Slepak, and Yosef Begun, Shcharansky stated, "Our solidarity... must be expressed in concrete ways where it can be heard by Soviet leaders. That is why it is so important that the Jackson Amendment will be supported by the Amer-

ican people. (The amendment) has succeeded in the past and will succeed in the future."

Shcharansky's endorsement of the Jackson-Vanik Amendment was considered significant because last month Senate Majority Leader Robert Dole (R-Kans.) advocated waiving the Jackson-Vanik Amendment and allowing the Soviet Union most-favoured nation trading status in the hope that would lead the Soviets to free more Jews.

Jewish establishment organizations here such as the National Conference on Soviet Jewry for more than a year have urged waiving the amendment if the Soviets show "progress" on Jewish emigration, and there have been reports that one top Jewish leader urged Shcharansky last week not to express support for Jackson-Vanik during his discussions with President Reagan tomorrow.

Shcharansky angered some leaders of the Soviet Jewry movement here by spending Shabbat at the home of activist Rabbi Avi Weiss, and making an appearance at Weiss's synagogue Saturday night.

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

Mayors conference begins in Jerusalem

The seventh Jerusalem Conference of Mayors began yesterday with Jerusalem's Teddy Kollek welcoming 15 mayors from the U.S. and Europe. Although the official title of the week-long conference is "Municipal Governance in a Period of Austerity," both organizers and participants said that the conference is also an opportunity to show that Jerusalem is a safe place to visit.

There are only five American mayors here this year, as opposed to 15 in previous years. Some mayors said the adverse publicity over the recent murder of an English tourist in Jerusalem caused mayors to cancel.

Quick-draw motorist out on NIS 1,000 bail

Jerusalem Post Reporter
TEL AVIV (Itim).—Local resident Abraham Zadok, 37, suspected of firing at the van of municipal inspectors who fastened a Denver boot to his car on Sunday was released on NIS 1,000 bail yesterday by the Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court.

The police witness asked that Zadok be detained for a further five days.

MDA protest ends

The 970 employees of Magen David Adom who have been hunger striking over their low wages since Friday ended their protest yesterday afternoon, and emergency first-aid services resumed in time for Independence Day.

The Histadrut and the works committee's agreement to negotiate with the MDA management was approved yesterday by the Tel Aviv Labour Court. The workers agreed to end their hunger strike and not to resort to any other protest action during two weeks of negotiations, which will begin on Thursday.

Teachers stand firm

TEL AVIV.—The executive of the Histadrut Teachers Union has reaffirmed the decision not to agree to the postponement of pay increases for a year, as Prime Minister Peres requested last week.

Union Secretary-General Yitzhak Welber turned down the request when leaders of both teachers' unions met with Peres, but Welber promised that the executive would reconsider the matter.

The Secondary School Teachers Association agreed at last week's meeting to postpone some of these payments for a year.

Policemen get new gun

By BARBARA AMOUYAL

Some 2,200 patrolmen and police detectives throughout the country have been outfitted with a new personal handgun which top brass believe will be "a more reliable deterrent" against terror and criminal attacks.

According to Chief Superintendent Yosef Yekutieli, national police arsenal officer, the new Belgian-made semi-automatic 9 mm. FN is more accurate and more reliable than the 38 Webley-Scott, which police hope to replace by the end of this year. Another 1,400 FN's are on order and police hope to fully integrate the new weapon with the 22 Italian-made Beretta issued to investigators and administrative personnel.

The semi-automatic FN features a 13-bullet magazine as opposed to the six-bullet chamber of the Webley-Scott.

The Fabrique-Nationale-manufactured single-action Mark II FN, weighing approximately 1,100 grams, requires a series of steps before it can be fired, but Yekutieli insists that with proper training the pistol can be drawn and fired as quickly as the revolver and more safely. He said all officers are undergoing extensive firing range practice and frequent proficiency tests.

The expensive decision to revamp the police arsenal took some 10 years to make, says Yekutieli. Police tested 10 weapons before arriving at the Belgian-made pistol. Each new FN costs the police approximately \$188 including holster, well below the \$300 market value.

"We saw the need for a more powerful, more efficient personal pistol a decade ago," said Yekutieli. "Unfortunately the recent rise in terror attacks has made that need much more pronounced."

Playground equipment still not restored

Footdragging at Safad absorption centre

By MOSHE KOHN

Jerusalem Post Reporter
Eight days after orders were given to restore playground equipment at an absorption centre in Safad housing 20 families from Ethiopia, the swings, sandbox and slide were not yet back in place yesterday morning.

A spokesman for the Jewish Agency Aliya Department told *The Jerusalem Post* that department head Haim Aharon had again ordered Berechiatu Massouri, who is in charge of maintenance and equipment at absorption centres, to see to the matter promptly. Absorption officials in Safad confirmed to *The Post* that Massouri had called them later yesterday to tell them to expect the equipment "shortly."

The removal of the equipment was reported by *The Post* on May 4. That day, an Agency spokesman told *The Post* that an order had been issued promptly to return the equipment,

which belongs to the Agency and had been removed following the transfer of responsibility for the Ethiopians at that absorption centre to the Absorption Ministry. When *The Post* visited Safad on Sunday, the playground was still bare, and David Hartom, special adviser to Safad Mayor Zev Peri, said that Aharon had told him last Thursday that he had ordered the equipment restored.

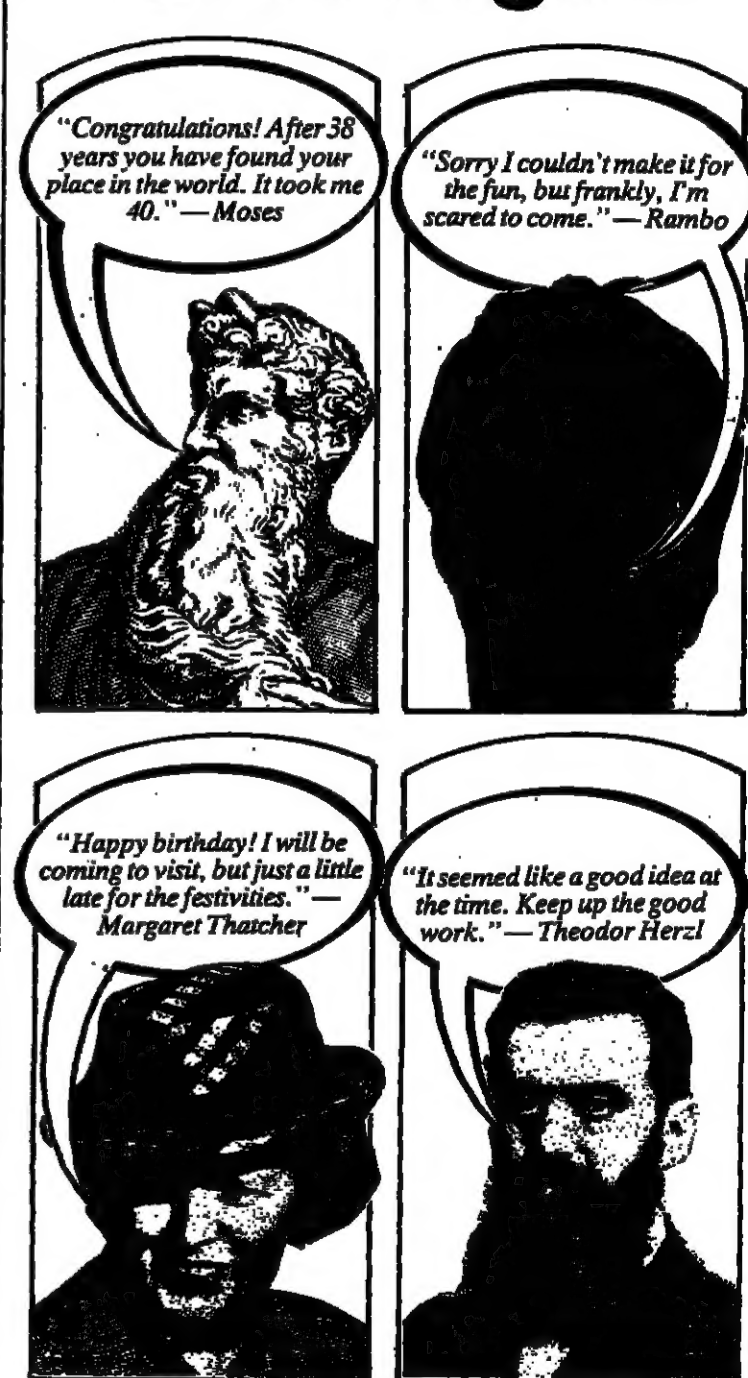
Contrary to the earlier report, Agency social workers are still attending to the 20 Ethiopian families at the absorption centre in Safad's Ganei Hadar neighbourhood and the 100 families in the Rehov Zabal centre. The Ganei Hadar centre, actually a standard Housing Ministry residential block, has been "phased out" of Agency care by the absorption authorities and made the newcomers' permanent residence. The larger centre is

due to be phased out soon.

According to Hartom, the concern of all the 120 Ethiopian families—comprising about 600 persons—are being dealt with by a local steering committee, headed by Mayor Peri. The committee includes representatives of the Ethiopians, all the relevant municipal, governmental and voluntary bodies, and the Agency. The continued assistance includes a programme of further education in Hebrew and Jewish and Israeli history, as well as other cultural and social activities, in the city's community centres.

Hartom said that the Ethiopians are free to choose any available government-owned flats in any part of Safad, and the Ethiopians do wish to mingle with the general population, he said. The same applies to the choice of schools for the children in the coming school year.

Greetings...



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EC argues over ban on East bloc food

BRUSSELS. — Confusion over European Community attempts to ban food imports from Eastern Europe after the Soviet nuclear accident has highlighted the group's divisions and its inability to reach quick decisions.

EC diplomats and officials were disheartened by the wrangling among the 12 on trade questions at a time of mounting public concern about contamination.

"What is lamentable is what our people will be thinking and what the rest of the world will think of Europe," one senior diplomat said yesterday as the foreign ministers took up the issue after a week of discord.

Several described it as a farce. EC states were seen jockeying for advantage and trying to exact revenge for commercial slights by others.

Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti said yesterday: "We must reach a decision without consideration of commercial or prestige advantage."

But his country is at the heart of

the row, blamed by others for precipitating the crisis by imposing health restrictions on food imports from other EC states.

Italy says the restrictions were imposed for health reasons only, but the French in particular see them as retaliation for limitations imposed on imports of Italian wines earlier this year after some were found to contain methanol.

Whether the French suspicions are justified or not, the issue has blocked EC action for over a week, showing the group at its most ineffective.

Poland, meanwhile, yesterday invited Western experts to inspect its anti-radiation controls, saying the European community ban on fresh food imports from Eastern Europe could cost Poland hundreds of millions of dollars.

And Saudi Arabia yesterday banned imports of fresh fruits, vegetables, meat and milk from both Eastern and Western Europe at least until Wednesday, businessmen and diplomats said in Riyadh yesterday. (Reuters, AP)

Ostracized Sikh named as security chief in India

NEW DELHI. — Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi promoted a Sikh ostracized by his community to India's top security job of Home Minister in a major cabinet reshuffle yesterday.

Gandhi, whose government is battling Sikh separatist extremists in northern Punjab State, moved Agriculture Minister Buta Singh to the Home Ministry, which deals with the police and internal security.

A Home Ministry official said Singh's appointment would strengthen the position of the ministry's number two, Arun Nehru, Gandhi's cousin, who is in charge of internal security. The official said Singh would not be able to deal directly with Punjab, India's biggest internal security problem, because no Sikh would talk to him.

Singh was a minister in June 1984,

when late prime minister Indira Gandhi ordered the Indian Army into the Sikhs' holiest shrine, the Golden Temple in Amritsar, to dislodge extremists.

The five Sikh head priests accused him of being party to the raid, which outraged many of India's 14 million Sikhs. They declared him a sinner and ordered all Sikhs to ostracize him.

Meanwhile, near Amritsar, Sikh extremists killed four Hindus in two separate attacks, raising to 50 the number of revenge slayings since a recent commando raid on the Golden Temple, police reported yesterday.

Sikh extremists have vowed to kill more members of the Hindu minority unless security forces withdraw from inside the Golden Temple.

African nations consider ways to battle baby boom

HARARE Zimbabwe (AP). — Prime Minister Robert Mugabe, yesterday opened a 37-nation African conference on the continent's population explosion by urging lawmakers to link birth control programmes with development needs.

"No population programme should be considered in isolation from policies and plans on health, housing, education, employment, the environment and the use of available resources," Mugabe said.

The Zimbabwe leader was officially opening the five-day all-Africa Parliamentary Conference on Population and Development, jointly organized by the Zimbabwe Par-

liament and the New York-based Global Committee of Parliamentarians on Population and Development.

Demographers and other experts have been given the task of alerting the legislators to the dangers of Africa's baby boom. The continent, with 500 million people, has an annual birth rate of 3 per cent — the world's highest. But during the past decade food production has risen only 1.9 per cent.

Mugabe, leader of Africa's youngest nation, said Zimbabwe's own annual birth growth of 2.84 per cent "retards efforts at raising the standard of living of the masses."



A car was set alight by blacks in the township of Soweto, near Johannesburg, yesterday in an apparent gesture of anger after three youths had been killed in clashes with the police. (Reuters)

Pretoria hints at stricter steps as violence continues

JOHANNESBURG. — A black man accused of killing a constable was shot dead yesterday by police, who said he tried to escape into a squatter camp while accompanying a team of investigators.

Police said the 23-year-old man, whose name was not released, was arrested last week and accused of being the sniper who shot a constable on March 25.

The suspect was taken to the Crossroads squatter settlement near Cape Town early yesterday by an investigative team seeking to find the gun used in the sniping, police said.

According to police, the suspect jumped from the armoured police vehicle, knocked an officer out of the way, and bolted toward a cluster of shacks before he was shot in the back of the head.

Police reported one other death in unrest overnight. A black man shot by a black police officer in Kutsong

township west of Johannesburg, whose house was being fire-bombed. He was the eighth black man to die in week-end violence.

The state-run radio yesterday hinted at a fresh security crackdown to prevent "total anarchy."

The commentary on Radio South Africa, which invariably reflects government thinking, said violent tactics of black activists were fuelling anger among white right-wing radicals.

"Clearly, effective security action, backed by enabling measures, will now have to be taken in the interests of the vast majority of South Africans, if this two-edged threat of total anarchy is to be avoided," the radio said.

The warning followed a massive week-end security sweep in Alexandra township and tension triggered by the death of three black youths at Diepkloof, near Johannesburg. (AP, Reuters)

FOREIGN NEWS IN BRIEF

Sudan's new PM vows to end Islamic law

NEW YORK (Reuters). — Sudanese Prime Minister Sadiq al-Mahdi was quoted yesterday as saying he would abolish Islamic law introduced by former president Jaafar Numeiry.

"It was blood-thirsty, police-state law," Mahdi said in an interview with *Numeiry* magazine. "We must eliminate the Numeiry experience."

Soviet officials arrested for stealing petrol

MOSCOW (AP). — Several officials in charge of distributing gasoline and motor oil have been fired and arrested following the discovery of widespread pilfering, the Communist Party daily *Pravda* reported yesterday. *Pravda* said "pilfering on an especially large scale" was discovered in five of the Soviet Union's 15 republics.

Frenchman completes solo trek to North Pole

PARIS (Reuters). — A French doctor on Sunday completed a solitary 63-day, 774-km walk to the North Pole. The organizer, Michel Franco, told Reuters in a long-distance telephone call from a base in Resolute Bay, Canada, that Jean-Louis Etienne, 39, reached the Pole on Sunday after a non-stop 20-km last lap.

Sri Lanka rebel mine kill five

COLOMBO. — Five government workers were killed and one wounded when their vehicle detonated a landmine in northern Sri Lanka, the National Security Ministry said yesterday.

The landmine blasted one of three vehicles in a convoy carrying employees of the land commissioner's department and a ministry spokesman blamed the attack on guerrillas fighting to set up a separate state for minority Tamils.

Meanwhile, National Security Minister Lalith Athulathududhi has denied Indian press reports that he had gone on a secret mission to Sri Lanka to get more support for an all-out military offensive against the Tamil militants.

In Colombo, the state-run *Daily News* yesterday quoted him as saying: "I have been to Britain. I was away for three nights."

The government has said guerrilla action has killed 28 people in two bomb blasts over the past 10 days in the capital, Colombo.

Sixteen people, mostly foreign tourists, died when a bomb ripped through an Air Lanka plane on April 26 at Colombo Airport. Last Wednesday, another bomb killed the central telegraph office killing 12 people and wounding more than 100.

Police have arrested a man suspected of planting the bomb that blew up the jetliner, a government-controlled newspaper said yesterday.

The *Observer* said the man was a customs employee. (Reuters, AP)

Budget cuts will hit U.S. foreign policy, Shultz warns

MOFFETT NAVAL AIR STATION, California (Reuters). — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz said yesterday that proposed cuts in the State Department budget would seriously hamper U.S. foreign policy.

"These kinds of budget cuts are going to make it very difficult to implement in a desirable way the whole foreign and national security policy," he told reporters on the plane taking him back to Washington after an Asian tour.

President Reagan has requested \$22.6 billion for the State Department, whose budget includes large components of U.S. foreign aid and a \$1.4-billion plan to improve security at U.S. embassies.

In the proposed Senate budget, State Department spending was slashed to \$17.8 billion. The House of Representatives version cut it to \$17.6 billion.

Shultz said the foreign aid cuts would be felt around the globe. Aid to Israel and Egypt, which make up nearly one-third of the department budget, will not be cut, so it will be difficult to find funds for other nations, he said.

SPORTS Dropping the pilot

By DON GOULD
TEL AVIV. — Israel's national basketball team captain, Steve Schlachter, and John Willis are being dropped from the squad following the decision of Boris Stankovic, the head of FIBA, that the new regulation, limiting teams in European competitions to two foreign-born players, irrespective of citizenship, is to be strictly enforced. Israel will thus be badly depleted in the European championships "B" Division tournament which gets under way on Friday.

Schlachter, married to an Israeli and with three Israeli children, has been an Israeli citizen for ten years. But coach Zvi Sherf, faced with the unenviable task of having no alternative but to drop two out of foreign-born players Schlachter, Willis, Lavonne Mercer, and Howard Lasoff, elected to ditch the first two, no doubt because the other two are younger — an important factor in the lengthy tournament. Mercer actually was always a certainty to be selected.

Israel will continue to fight the hard, and on the face of it, unreasonable regulation, which has no precedent in any sport.

Schlachter said bitterly last night, "I'm terribly disappointed, but I understand why Sherf did it. He had no alternative but to make a choice."

The national squad will be hard hit by the absence of two big men to come on from the bench. There are no obvious replacements.

The new regulation is apparently not targeted on Israel specifically. Other teams, notably England and Greece, have in past years have packed teams with American-born players of English or Greek parentage.

Blok chosen as Israeli coach

By PAUL KOHN
TEL AVIV. — Ger Blok of Holland has been chosen as the next national team soccer coach, by a committee of five set up by the Football Association.

The choice of Blok, over Valido Vasovic of Yugoslavia, has still to be confirmed by the IFA, but this is expected to be a formality. Blok will begin his work here in September.

The Israel soccer coaches are reported to be upset by the terms being offered the Dutch coach. The FA is ready to pay the foreign coach \$5,000 per month, besides providing him with an apartment and other facilities. The local coaches reckoned the outlay was more than twice as high as that received by Yosef Minowitch, the outgoing national team coach, who held the job for the past four years.

24 athletes from Germany, Belgium and N. Ireland participated.

The best race on Sunday night was the duel over 800m, by Hadass Lamdani and Russian immigrant Faina Yankelwitz, with Lamdani beating her more fancied rival, who led most of the way. The winner timed 2:12.84 minutes.

Sixteen-year-old Ramil Levran, of Russia, long-jumped 7.45m, the second best jump ever by an Israeli, and thereby set a new national youth record. The national record back to 1971, when Zvi Amiel jumped 7.53 meters.

No Israeli records were broken in a rather disappointing meet, in which

along with South Africans Linda Barnard and Paulette Roux and Norway's Amy Jonsson.

Among the surprise results, unseeded Hagit Ohayon, 15, caused the biggest upset when she put out No. 4 seed Yael Shavit 6-4, 6-4 in the wind-swept Ashkelon Municipal Club, where she is coached by Russian immigrant Yegor Yosef.

Doron (No. 3) lost 6-4, 6-3 to South African Lizanne Selley, while Shalev (No. 6) was edged 3-6, 6-4 by Medi Dadush at 14 one of the meet's youngest participants.

After a break for Remembrance Day, play resumes tomorrow at 2 p.m. on this second leg of the \$20,000 circuit.

Several seeds end in dust

By JACK LEON
ASHKELOH. — Seeded Israelis Sagit Doron, Yael Shavit and Sarit Shalev all bit the dust yesterday in first-round singles matches at the Vanessa Phillips women's satellite circuit professional tennis tournament here, but there were victories for Ilana Berger and Dalia Coriat.

Bucks gore 76ers

The Milwaukee Bucks are through to the finals of the Eastern Conference of the NBA against the Boston Celtics by virtue of a one-point cliffhanger victory over the Philadelphia 76ers in their climactic seventh game. The Bucks won 113-112.

RAMAT GAN
Armon: Spies Like Us 5, 7:15, 9:30; Liza: 9:15, 9:30; 9:30; Odeon: Clockwork Orange 7:15, 9:30; Odeon: No Milk Today 4:30, 7:15, 9:30; Ramat Gan: Remo, 4:30, 7:15, 9:30; Ramat Gan: 11 A Chorus Line, 5, 7:30, 9:30; Ramat Gan: 2, When Father Was Away on Business 4:15, 5:30, 9:30; Ramat Gan: 2, Twice in a Lifetime 5, 7:30, 9:30; Ramat Gan: Juggled Edge 7:30, 9:30; Lady and the Tramp, 9 p.m.

HERZLIYA
David: No Milk Today, 4:30, 7:15, 9:30; Mon, Tue, no perf.; Mechal: Out of Africa, 6, 9; Mon, no perf.; New Theater: Juggled Edge 7:15, 9:30; Hotel: Macaroni, Wed, 7:15, 9:30.

HOLON
Migdal: Twice in a Lifetime 7:15, 9:30; 9:30, 7:15, 9:30; Mon, 4:30, 7:15, 9:30; 9:30; Armon: Macaroni: Clockwork Orange 7, 9:30.

BAT YAM
Atzmay: Indiana Jones 4:30, 7:15, 9:30; Mon, 4:30, 7:15, 9:30.

GIVATAYIM
Hadar: Out of Africa, 6, 9; Mon, no perf.

RAMAT HASHARON
Kochav: Doin' Time, Sun, Wed, 7, Tue, 10:45 p.m.; Thur, 4, 7; Brdy, Sun, Wed, Thur, 9:30 p.m.

PETAH TIKVA
G.G. Hechal: 1, Out of Africa, 6, 9; Mon, no perf.; G.G. Hechal: 2, Delfs: Force 4:30, 7, 9:30; Mon, 4:30, 7, 9:30; G.G. Hechal: 3, Back to the Future, 4:30, 7:15, 9:30; Mon, 4:30, 7, 9:30.

HAIFA
Amphitheatre: Remo 4:30, 7, 9:15; Armon: Night Night 4:30, 6:45, 9; Atzmay: No Milk Today 4:30, 7, 9:15; Chorus Line 7, 9:15; 9:15; Odeon: Out of Africa, 6, 9; Thur, 7:15, 9:30; Liza: 9:15, 9:30; Peer: Spies Like Us 4:30, 6:45, 9; Remo: Indiana Jones 4, 6:30, 9; Sherif: Official Story 7, 9; Ramat Gan: 1, A Chorus Line 7, 9:15; Ramat Gan: 2, Nadia 7, 9:15; Ramat Gan: 3, Back to the Future, 4:30, 6:30, 9.

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TODAY'S ENTERTAINMENT

TUESDAY TELEVISION

EDUCATIONAL:
9:00 Yohanan's Birds Still Fly Here 9:15
Dance of Bereavement 9:30 Shimon Farin
1980-1982 10:10 Young Talent 10:00
Rainbow 10:30 From a Son to a Son 10:30
The War of Independence 10:00 A New Evening
— live magazine

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMES:
12:30 We'll Remember Them All
ALABAMA LAMBLING programmes:
18:00 News and the President's Independence
Day Message
HEBREW PROGRAMMES resume at
18:30 with news of Remembrance Day
events

18:45 Live broadcast from Mt. Herzl of
closing ceremony of Remembrance Day
and opening ceremony of Independence
Day

20:00 The President's Message
20:15 Festive Concert — Handel: Water
Music; Handel: Royal Fireworks Music
(London Philharmonic; Andre Previn). The
concert was recorded in London's Hyde
Park to mark the 300th anniversary of
Handel's birth

21:00 Mahat: Newsweek
21:30 The Prime Minister's Message
21:45 Independence Day Party in Sderot
23:00 News

23:10 Independence Day talks and entertain-
ment
00:20 To Catch a Thief, Alfred Hitchcock's
1955 film stars Grace Kelly and Cary Grant
02:00 News

JORDANIAN TV (unofficial):
16:30 Cartoons 17:00 French Hour 18:30
News in Hebrew 19:00 News in Arabic
19:30 Al at No. 20.20 The Brief 21:00
News in English 21:20 The Equalizer

MIDDLE EAST TV (from T.A. north):
12:00 Animals, Animals, Animals 12:30
Another Life 13:00 700 Club 13:30 Shape-
Up 14:00 Afternoon Movie 15:30 Spider-
man and Friends 16:00 Flying Horse
16:30 Muppets 17:00 Battlerstar Galecia
18:00 News 19:00 Ripside 20:00 Another
Life 20:30 Simon & Simon 21:30 Airsoft
22:30 700 Club

ON THE AIR
Voice of Music
6:02 Morning Melodies
7:10 Albinoni: Adagio; Massenet: Medita-
tion
7:30 Josef Tal: Dirge; Puccini: Funeral
Music for Queen Mary; Bach: Cello Suite
No. 5; Mendelssohn: String Quartet No. 1;
Josef Tal: "Parade of the Fallen"

9:30 Zvi Ben-Josef: Clarinet Sonata;
Vaughan-Williams: Tallis-Fantasy;
Franz: Prayer; Hindemith: "Traummu-
sik"; Bruckner: String Quintet; Ben Zion
Orgad: "Ha'el Israel"

12:05 Chamber Music
13:00 Bach: Partita No. 2 (Menuhin);
Mozart: Quartet in D minor (Guarnieri);
Schoenberg: "Transfigured Night"; Sil-
berstein: Violin Concerto (Yvonne Yaron)

15:00 Concert (no details available)
16:00 Bach: Art of the Fugue; Brahms:
Rhapsody (Walsenberg); Bruckner: Sym-
phony No. 9 (Bernstein)

18:00 Schubert: Impromptu, Op. 90, No. 1
(Brandel); Liszt: Gondola Song No. 2;
Mendelssohn: 3 Fantasies, Op. 18
19:05 Music from the Past
21:00 The Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra,
Gary Bertini conducting — Ben-Haim:
Fanfare to Israel; Concerto (with first-price

winner of Ben-Haim Competition);
Mahler: Symphony No. 1,
23:00 "Marathon" until 2:00 a.m.

First Programme
6:03 Programmes for Olim
7:30 Favourite Old Songs
8:05 Campagna — with Benny Hendei
9:05 Hebrew songs
9:30 Programmes in Easy Hebrew
10:05 School Broadcasts
11:02 Live broadcast from Mt. Herzl of the
Remembrance Day ceremony
11:30 Hebrew Songs
12:05 The State Symbol
13:00 News in English
13:30 News in French



After taking the Castel on the main approach to Jerusalem during the War of Independence.

(Government Press Office)

MOST ARABS CONCEDE:

ISRAEL IS HERE TO STAY

YA'ACOV LAMDAN

IN JUST two more years we shall mark the 40th anniversary of the War of Independence and the establishment of the State of Israel. On the Arab side as well, the "generation of the desert" has gone the way of all flesh: those who were then in their twenties have long since become grandparents; the babies born at the end of the 1940s are today the parents of growing children.

It would not be a disservice to truth to say that there has been quite a substantive change in the relations and approach of Arabs in general, and Palestinians in particular, towards Israel during the dozens of years that have passed since the establishment of the state. The thinking Arab – even if not formally educated or an intellectual – today knows that the time has passed in which he could believe there was a chance to destroy the State of Israel. Today he knows that Israel is an established fact, which must be lived with.

In the best case – from his point of view – it is possible to stick one's head in the ground and thus not see it. But the hope implanted in his heart by the demagogic leaders of the Fifties and Sixties – that Israel is a passing phenomenon – has by today completely evaporated. This is despite the fact that, even today, there are those Arab and Palestinian leaders who continue to delude and to deceive those they lead.

Despite the exhortations of Assad, Gaddafi, Habbash, et al., the overwhelming majority of Arabs know the absolute truth: Israel is an established fact; the maximum that can be expected of it is the return of part or most of the territories occupied since 1967, and this only in the framework of a peace treaty.

A clear expression of this approach may be found today even in the Palestinian press published in the territories and in East Jerusalem. Here are excerpts from a recent article by Najji Aloush in the East Jerusalem daily, *Al Nahar*:

"THE TIME has come for the Arabs to decide to devote special attention to studying the true situation of Israel today, from the following aspects:

"A. Our mistaken and incorrect reports about Israel and the weakness of its forces have been exposed, both because we lacked sufficient information and because those who knew the truth gave us false and misleading information. We must now truthfully admit that our reports about Israel were limited and partial, or mistaken and misleading.

"B. During the past 10 years, Israel has achieved many accomplishments internally, in the Arab sphere and internationally. These achievements are important and bear decisive influence on the outcome of the struggle.

"WHAT ARE the most conspicuous accomplishments? Internally, Israel has developed its military capability in various areas: its air force, armour, artillery, missiles, radar – not to mention atomic weapons.

"The exploitation of its technological ability in industry and agriculture has expanded its exports considerably and increased its foreign currency earnings. Israel's scientific progress must be studied carefully in order to learn how to withstand it; for if we do not do so, we shall continue to talk ignorantly about a 'strategic balance' and will again be brutally surprised, as we were in 1956, 1967 and 1982.

"Similarly, we must study the formidable influence of Israel's agricultural technology and exports, so

as not to delude ourselves and in order to know the truth about its economic situation; both its strong-points and weaknesses.

"IN THE ARAB sphere, Israel has achieved many accomplishments; even though these have not met all of its expectations, they do represent some important preliminary successes.

"The foremost of these is the reduction of chances for the realization of Arab unity. This has come about by the sharpening of ethnic and factional conflict, as well as the increasing struggles among neighbouring Arab states.

"There has also been a retreat from the call for political and social liberation, along with a strengthening of fundamentalist tendencies that struggle for a return to the past in the political and social fields.

"Despite the fact that the size of the Arab armies has increased considerably and their fighting ability has been enhanced, the chances for Arab superiority have not improved; since each of these armies suffers from internal and external problems, which disrupt and neutralize its ability. This is in addition to the Arab political tendencies, which confound one another and often clash.

"WILL WE ever learn the reasons for our deficiencies, locate their causes and know how to deal with them? Will the call for solidarity be enough for us? And why hasn't such solidarity come about? Can the Arabs – who cannot even convene a summit conference – withstand (Israel's) aggressive plans towards them, given the continuation of the Iraq-Iran war, the Moroccan-Algerian conflict, the growing ethnic war in Lebanon, the worsening crisis between the north and the south in Sudan, the renewal of relations between Syria and Iraq and between North and South Yemen?

"In the international arena, Israel has had some great achievements. Most importantly, it has signed a strategic cooperation agreement and other important pacts with the U.S. It has also improved its international situation thanks to various factors, including American diplomacy.

"If we ask ourselves why this happens to us, we will find a clear and undoubted answer: the official policies of the Arab countries, which deny their citizens their political rights both internally and in the pan-Arab sphere, and which foment the greatest possible number of intra-Arab struggles."

'Fear not the struggle'

The following signed editorial appeared in the semi-official Jordanian daily *al-Ra'i* last week.

WHOEVER has been following the Israeli media lately and the declarations by Israeli leaders is likely to see the plot Israel is hatching against our sister Syria.

Israel is exploiting to the utmost the hostility toward terrorism that has overtaken world opinion. Israel has put itself and all its resources at the disposal of the powers that oppose terrorism or are exposed to it.

Israel is trying to have any action it may take against Syria or any other Arab state classified as part of the fight against international "terrorism." Accordingly, it is attempting to pass for the representative of the "free" world that is punishing the forces, or organizations or peoples "enamoured" with terrorism. On

this basis Israel is demanding that the international community support, and not condemn, its mission.

These developments among ruling Israeli circles are not surprising for the Zionist mentality by nature is always quick to exploit opportunities to add to the gains the Zionist movement has realized since the Basle conference in Switzerland.

What action should be taken to confront the many forces that are ganging up against that which remains of the opposition to Israeli hegemony in our region?

First: The Arabs must be cleared of the accusations – being levelled at every echelon – of involvement in terrorism, a phenomenon that differs from the revolutionary violence that characterizes national liberation movements. The finger of blame points rather to the forces of oppression, including Zionism, which hires the Jews to carry out terrorist actions

to defame the Arab struggle, its chief enemy.

Second: Expose all those who have become incapable of fighting the Zionist enemy either as a result of shortsightedness or inability to absorb the new tools of struggle.

Third: Close the Lebanese file – quickly and at whatever cost – since it is the Achilles' heel in Syria's confrontation with Israel. It is the vulnerable spot not because it makes a farce of the great Syrian effort, but rather because Lebanon has become the base for all the centres of world struggle. For every brave action carried out by the national forces of Lebanon there is a senseless kidnapping, killing or bombing.

Fourth: Resistance, using every possible weapon, to any attack Israel may launch against Syria, bearing in mind all the real clashes with Israel in the past beginning with the [1968] Karamah campaign through the his-

toric crossing of the Suez Canal and the smashing of the Bar-Lev line to the legendary steadfastness of Beirut. Israel must be led into a true battle in which Arab heroism will shatter the Zionist illusion of greatness, arrogance and superiority that is based on brute force fed by Western arsenals.

Dragging Israel into a clash with the sea of Arabs – including all their weapons and historical hatred – will end the disunity among the Arabs. It will also bring home to Israel the methods of struggle that our Arab people have yet to use against it. The Israeli myth has been built on limited confrontations that do not fall within the meaning of the national struggle between the Jewish lie and the national truth.

Therefore, sons of Syria – heart, sword and shield of the Arab world – be heroic and fear not the struggle.

AMIL AZIZAT



JORDANIAN COMMENT

The two editorial cartoons at left are reproduced from the Jordanian newspaper *Sawt al-Shaab*. Both focus on the Western media. Top: A Western newsman photographs a passive Arab and an armed Israel – but the picture comes out exactly the opposite. Below: Shimon Peres on TV offers an olive branch, which draws generous financial support. Off the screen, Peres is heavily armed.

THE JERUSALEM POST LIBRARY – May 1986

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NICHOLAS B. TATRO
Tyre

FOR THE first time since Israel's invasion of Lebanon in 1982, a major building boom is under way in South Lebanon. But the new face of prosperity conceals simmering strife that could shatter the calm at any minute.

A hotel and a shopping centre are rising on the site of the former Israeli headquarters and detention centre south of the city which was abandoned last June when the bulk of Israel's troops withdrew.

North of Tyre, multi-story apartment blocks are going up and inland roads are being paved for the first time since the 1950s. A new privately funded school is also being built.

"The building is a result of the security which Amal has brought here," said Hussein Bitar, a banker in Tyre, an ancient Roman port with a predominantly Shi'ite population of 50,000.

Two other factors are involved, he said. The agricultural-based economy perked up after the Israeli pullout opened roads to the Syrian-controlled Bekaa Valley, where vegetables, citrus and tobacco are shipped to Gulf states via Damascus.

With inflation soaring at 250 per cent a year, thousands of Shi'ites living in West Africa and the Gulf also saw building as a more stable investment than the Lebanese lira (26 equal one dollar) for the \$150 million they send home annually.

A stream of trucks bumping along the pot-holed coastal road carrying bags of cement and sand is a symbol of the boom and the underlying tension. Armed Amal guards ride shotgun to prevent resurgent Palestinian guerrillas from using the trucks to smuggle arms.

"There will be no return of Palestinians (guerrillas) to South Lebanon. For us, it is a matter of life and death," said Abdel Majid Saleh, a former elementary school teacher in Tyre, who is now a member of Amal's 12-member national governing committee.

However, Palestine Liberation Organization Chairman Yasser Arafat's guerrilla force appears to have made a comeback after being driven out as a result of Israel's invasion and a rift with Syria.

Western sources who demanded anonymity estimate 3,000 experienced Palestinian fighters are in South Lebanon, most around the port city of Sidon. They say the guerrillas have financial backing from Saudi Arabia and that Fatah military chief Khalil al Wazir (code name Abu Jihad) has visited his forces there recently.

Israel has launched three air raids against the Ein Hilweh Palestinian and Mieh Mieh camps near Sidon so far this year – the kind of reprisal that the locally based Amal leaders seek to avoid for their now prospering area.

With about 6,000 fighters in the south and a Shi'ite population of half a million, Amal leaders speak confidently about their ability to control the Palestinians and Lebanese radical groups, such as the Iranian-backed Hizbollah (Party of God), which seek to launch a major guerrilla campaign against Israel.

Amal's policy thus far has been to refrain from cross-border shelling and to confine attacks to the buffer zone. But its willingness to enforce this policy on others may be wearing thin.

Amal leaders say the ongoing presence of Israeli soldiers and Christian militiamen in a 10 to 16 kilometre (6 to 10 mile) border strip undermines their credibility with a population that has neither forgotten nor forgiven Israel's army for its iron-fisted occupation.

"I am moderate, but if the occupation does not end the extremists will gain," Daoud Daoud, leader of the

Amal militia in South Lebanon, warned in an interview.

Daoud said the nine-nation, 5,800-member United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (Unifil) and the Lebanese army backed by Amal would be able to guarantee the peace if Israel dissolved the security zone.

Uri Lubrani, a former ambassador to Iran who is now the Israeli government coordinator for Lebanon affairs, said such a solution was too risky for Israel. He said Amal did not have full control of the south and UN troops lacked the power of arrest and detention.

"It is my firm conviction that if we leave the security zone without some kind of arrangement we shall be forced in three months or six months to go back into Lebanon in force and this is something we want to avoid at all costs," Lubrani said in an interview in his office at the Defence Ministry in Tel Aviv.

"We perceive Amal to represent the mainstream of Shi'ites and we hope that indeed the time will come when we shall be able to deal with it," he said, noting that Israel has cut back its own forces to less than 600 men in the security zone and is holding less than 10 Shi'ites in Adit prison.

Daoud, who spoke to this reporter shortly after returning from Damascus, said there was no possibility of "a direct or indirect dialogue" with Israel.

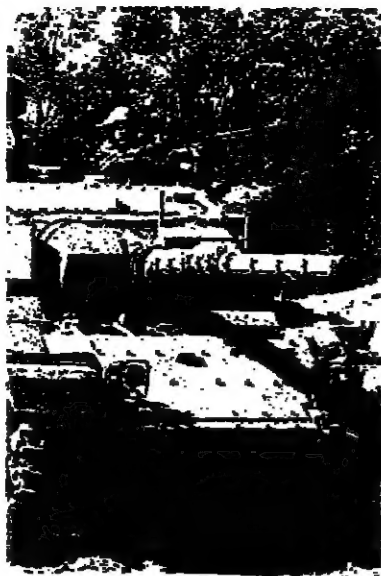
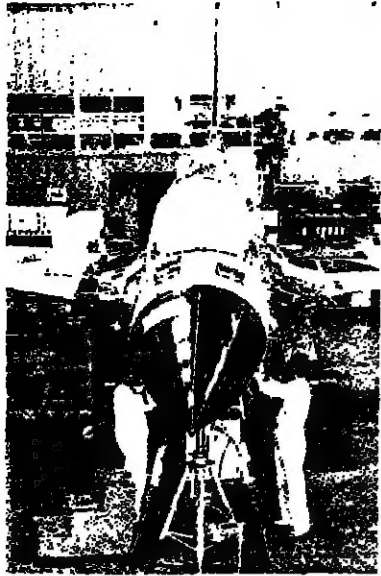
Interviewed in Badias, north of Tyre, he said too much blood had been spilled for relations with Israel to be possible now. For example, he said, eight of 70 fighting-aged men in the village of about 700 since 1982 and almost every family had someone who spent time in an Israeli prison camp.

"How will the mothers forget?" asked Daoud.

(Associated Press)

The Middle East page is edited by Yehuda Lior.

Keeping tabs on costly mistakes



**THE STATE
COMPTROLLER
REPORT NO. 36
1986**

Yitzhak Tunik



IDF found wanting in planning

AVI HOFFMAN / Post Defence Reporter

THE STATE COMPTROLLER cast a wide-ranging look at all aspects of the Israel Defence Forces' activities, but, for security reasons, not all the findings were made public and some that were left deliberately vague.

Among his findings were the poor state of the buildings used by the IDF, the absence of a master plan for the Air Force's expensive computer system, and a lack of clear policy guidelines at the IDF Command and Staff College. There has been considerable delay in the introduction of two advanced fighting craft in the Navy, while another, unspecified, weapon system had suffered from poor servicing and inadequate planning, the comptroller said.

The deployment on the northern border following the withdrawal from Lebanon experienced difficulties mainly resulting from poor supervision. Despite this, the IDF pull-back was carried out ahead of schedule. The comptroller advised against using emergency fuel stocks for any purpose apart from genuine emergencies.

The comptroller went back for a follow-up check of sectors he examined previously. He found that the IDF was continuing efforts to broaden professional possibilities

for women, but there was still no overall plan for this purpose.

A division that the comptroller visited for his previous report had rectified some shortcomings in the year, but there was no improvement in the professional qualifications of the officers. The commander, artillery and maintenance officers, their deputies and two deputy brigade commanders had not undergone battalion commanders course, nor had five deputy battalion commanders and 32 company commanders completed company commanders course.

What follows are some of the state comptroller's findings in more detail:

★ Deployment on the Lebanese border

The comptroller—looking into the IDF's deployment on the northern border between May and December 1985, after the withdrawal from Lebanon—found that inadequate supervision and coordination by the IDF led to delays by the contractors employed in strengthening the northern fortifications. This resulted in additional expenses.

The work was hampered by incomplete engineering plans, tardy evacuation of buildings and sites

occupied by soldiers, inadequate security measures for workers and a failure to clear minefields. Sanitary conditions in the fortifications were poor, and equipment was found to be missing.

The comptroller noted, however, that the evacuation of the Israeli forces was completed ahead of schedule. In fact, by the middle of May last year, the forces were deployed on the international boundary rather than in July or August as had been planned.

The uncertainty of the extent of hostile action necessitated speedy redeployment and this required especially good supervision and coordination. According to the comptroller, a supervisory body composed of senior representatives of the commands involved in the project should have been set up in the field and granted wide powers. This was not done, however, resulting in disruptions.

The comptroller recommended that the IDF tighten supervision of field units so as to prevent similar failures in the future.

★ Introduction of a weapon system
The prototype of a specialized weapon system put into operation in 1982 encountered difficulties when used in training.

The problems resulted from a low level of technical reliability, which in turn was due partially because the system was a prototype and partially because of the accelerated wear and tear resulting from its operational testing and use in the Lebanon War. In addition, the upkeep of the system, which was based on service by the manufacturer and partly by the IDF maintenance service, was adversely affected by budgetary problems and other considerations.

The introduction of the prototype into unit training was hampered mainly because of technical faults and because of faulty planning of training programmes and their implementation. Operators of the system were not trained in a field needed to operate the system. The development of a simulator, intended to help train operators, dragged for many years and had not yet been completed.

Deficiencies had been found in regular preventative maintenance while calibration checks needed for the efficient operation of the system were not carried out at the required times.

No provision had been made to ensure that soldiers who may have been exposed to radiation from the system at a level that could have endangered their health were sent for medical examination in time.

Some of the people handling the system were found to lack the required security clearances, and the system was not housed according to field security instructions.

★ Naval acquisitions

The Navy acquired two boats of a special type capable of skimming the surface of the sea at great speed and in heavy weather conditions, which cost a total of \$100 million. But the comptroller found that the assimilation of the first vessel, purchased from its American manufacturer in April 1983, was subject to various problems that delayed its becoming operational.

The second vessel, built under licence by Israel Shipyards in Haifa, was delivered to the Navy in July 1985, several years behind deadline.

The comptroller found that the operational and maintenance teams were undermanned. The crafts' crews were overloaded with work, being simultaneously responsible for operational, training and maintenance duties. The crew of the first vessel had not been trained as planned.

Serious delays had occurred in the development, manufacture and installation of certain systems for the boats. Spare parts were inadequate and expensive parts and equipment that broke down were not repaired quickly enough.

★ The IDF Command and Staff College

The General Staff has not formulated clear policy guidelines nor defined the place of the IDF Command and Staff College in the training and advancement of officers, the comptroller found. Because of this, the impact of the college on the training of command and staff officers was less than it could be.

The lack of a clear definition of which categories of officers should be required to study at the college, and the difficulties of filling the quotas set for field units, meant that the college was underutilized. Officers that needed the college were not sent, while those whose participation in the courses was not essential were.

The comptroller stressed the necessity of speedily completing the ongoing re-evaluation of the objectives of the college's programme of studies. Decisions on the future role of the college, based on the evaluation, should be implemented without delay, the comptroller concluded.

★ Computerization of administrative systems in the Air Force

The Air Force has no master plan for computerization of administrative systems, the comptroller found. Consequently, many systems whose development entailed considerable expense had not met the objectives for which they had been set up. The comptroller recommended that the Air Force establish policy and principles for a computerized administrative network and prepare a long-range plan.

The Air Force also must ensure that proper work procedures were instituted between headquarters, the computer unit and its users to ensure conformity and efficiency in planning, development and use of new systems.

In general, the computer unit provided its services to users in a satis-

factory fashion, the comptroller said. However, shortcomings were uncovered in operational and supervisory procedures.

★ Building maintenance

In most of the sites he inspected, the comptroller found the condition of buildings, especially old ones, to be in poor condition and improperly maintained.

There was no master plan for periodic maintenance of the buildings, which cover 4.5 million square metres of space, not including Air Force and Navy structures. In the absence of a detailed survey and data on the structures, there was no way the IDF could base an annual maintenance programme on the proper priorities, the comptroller added.

Standing orders require that buildings be inspected annually. However, such checks had not been carried out for years, the comptroller reported, adding that in the army camps he visited, buildings had wide cracks in the ceilings, leaky roofs and faulty sewage and plumbing.

Because of budget cuts, the construction units have been unable to overcome escalating maintenance problems.

If this situation continued, the comptroller warned, speedy deterioration of even new buildings could be expected. In view of the cutbacks in new construction, the comptroller advised that activities designed to maintain existing structures should not be curtailed, but rather enhanced.

Justice Ministry criticized over backlog of cases

THE ULTIMATE responsibility of the Justice Ministry, specifically district prosecutors and related departments, is to ensure that court orders are executed exactly as prescribed and within a "reasonable" time.

The state comptroller's report on the Justice Ministry found a backlog of cases where the winning parties have had to wait for years before receiving the sums awarded by the court. The state and district executioners' offices failed in many instances to ensure the proper execution

of court orders, thus resulting in loss of money to citizens and the state, as well as a loss of confidence in the state's judicial system.

Charging lack of control and follow-up by the executioners' offices, the report recommends an immediate reassessment of execution office policy to ensure expedient execution of all court orders.

Regarding the General Receiver's Office, the state comptroller found instances where insufficient action or irregularities in legal proceedings

resulted in increased damage to bankrupt individuals or companies placed in receivership.

The report cites loose control in various district offices of the general receiver, as well as many cases where the authorities failed to obtain accurate reports of financial status, causing injurious delay in receivership status. In certain cases where the court obliged offenders to pay compensation monthly, the comptroller found "excessively long" periods in which such orders were simply

ignored, thus causing further damage to the injured parties.

Irregularities in the General Receiver's Office were found in previous comptroller reports, but so far no steps have been taken for far-reaching improvements. The comptroller calls for "priority" reassessment and reorganization of this vital office.

The National Labour Court, established for swift and efficient resolution of work-related disputes,

was found to be suffering from irregularities due to a shortage of personnel and inefficient management. Proceedings on work-related disputes were unreasonably delayed, contributing to economic damage and tense and uncertain community relations.

The State Comptroller advises the National Labour Court to hire additional staff in order to fulfil its functions with proper speed.

Barbara Amouyal

Comptroller's findings uncover abuses at Labour Ministry

AN OLD-AGE home that did not provide sugar- and salt-free diets for residents suffering from diabetes or high blood pressure was brought to court only six months after Labour and Social Affairs Ministry supervisors reported the case.

The head of a ward at the Kfar Nahman village for the retarded continued to receive a salary months after the ward was closed. Residents in the village did not receive the wages to which they were entitled for their work. Their savings, given to the village director for safekeeping, were misused.

These were a few of the state comptroller's findings in his investigation of the Labour and Social Affairs Ministry's activities. He looked into the management of the ministry's New York offices, which provides vocational guidance to potential olim. He studied the treatment provided the elderly in community and in old-age homes and the youth services provided by welfare officers.

He also investigated the treatment of the retarded at Kfar Nahman and by the ministry's service for the retarded, and the Employment Service's treatment of foreign workers.

The comptroller found that the director of the ministry's New York office had drawn \$7,100 from his office's budget, without authorization, to cover personal expenses. He received an additional \$15,382 for travel expenses without providing receipts.

In April, 1985 the supervision of New York office payments was transferred to the Foreign Ministry's New York branch, as the Labour Ministry's ability to supervise from afar was limited.

The comptroller suggested reviewing the office's activities, organization and running costs, in light of its meagre record in bringing ex-Israelis and new olim to the country.

The service for the elderly did not keep orderly waiting lists for old-age

homes, nor did it have clear criteria for determining priority cases.

About 30 per cent of old-age homes had no licence on June 19, 1985. Some of these were due to technicalities, such as delays in the lengthy renewal process, or due to failure to meet requirements.

Some homes housed the elderly "in unfit structures without adequate treatment, causing stress and endangering lives," the comptroller stated.

HE FOUND that the service sometimes refers elderly people to homes despite the fact that they do not have licences. If the licence was denied because of a technicality.

No action was taken against some homes with poor conditions despite reports by the service's workers that the residents suffered from neglect, maltreatment or malnutrition.

He recommended that the service increase its supervision of the homes and take action against those which maintain poor conditions and who do not have operating licences.

An investigation of the Kfar Nahman village which houses retarded people, found that it violates the ministry's regulations.

The residents' savings were deposited in interest-yielding bank accounts, but the profits were not divided among them. Some of the money was kept in envelopes in the village's safe. The envelopes were not properly marked with the owner's name, and many did not contain the amount indicated.

The residents' wages for their work in the village workshops were determined by their instructors, who sometimes charged low prices for the products, paying the residents low wages.

Employers outside the village who hired some residents often paid them months late. A laundromat paid three residents on July 19, 1985 for work they carried out in March, without interest or linkage.

Tsipi Kuper

Dispute hampers completion of Western Wall road

USUALLY, when the state comptroller identifies a problem, he also identifies the person or body responsible for correcting it.

In at least one case, however, the comptroller has identified a difficulty, but has left us in the dark as to how it should be solved.

The problem is a longstanding argument between the Ministry of Religious Affairs and the Jerusalem Municipality and East Jerusalem Development Corporation, over the completion of the road from the Western Wall to the Dung Gate.

The area in which the road is

located comes under the jurisdiction of the ministry in its role as administrator of the holy places, while the work of developing the road was carried out by the corporation. In fact, the municipality allocated funds to have the roadwork completed, without, as the comptroller

noted, receiving guarantees.

But the main difficulty lies in a clash between the corporation, which insists that the main funding of the road work should come from the sale of shops to be located in the area, and the ministry, which objects to any form of "commercialization"

of the site. Meanwhile the road is unfinished, with an ugly open ditch along one side, and visitors must walk a few hundred metres to and from the bus stop.

Somewhat surprisingly, the comptroller calls upon the sides to come to an agreement and finish the road, but makes no comment on the elements of the dispute or the relative merits of the conflicting claims of both sides.

A far simpler solution was found to the problem of donations in foreign currency made at holy places. These are normally changed at the Bank of Israel but the bank has no provision for changing coins and several thousand dollars worth of coins had accumulated over the years in the ministry safe.

Following the comptroller's intervention, the ministry began studying the possibility of sending the coins through the diplomatic pouches, to be changed in the countries in which they were minted.

A similar, but more complex difficulty existed with regard to jewelry and other objects of value which had been donated. These items were recorded according to their weight and the material from which they were made, with no realistic attempt to value them.

Thus, when the entire contents of the safe containing these objects was stolen in 1980, the ministry could only claim the most general of valuations. But in spite of this experience, the ministry continues to register such objects only in a general way.

Haim Shapiro

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SHORT, LONG-TERM HOLIDAY

Information Department rapped over lack of guidelines

Report charges Foreign Ministry unit with lacking comprehensive annual plan

ASHER WALLFISH / Jerusalem Post Reporter

THE FOREIGN MINISTRY'S information department asks all Israeli missions abroad to draw up an annual plan of operations, but does not supply them with guidelines on the topics, aims and priorities of information work abroad. The ministry does not have a comprehensive annual plan of information activities.

The Foreign Ministry, along with more than half a dozen other bodies inside as well as outside the government, has been emphasizing for several years the need for coordination among all the bodies active in information work. In 1982, after the Lebanon War, the ministry drafted proposals for such comprehensive coordination, which were discussed at a special conference of public relations experts in April 1983.

It was proposed that representatives of all bodies active in information work meet once monthly under the chairmanship of the foreign minister to coordinate operations. But this and other key proposals were never implemented. Efforts to get experts from outside government service involved in information work bore no fruit. A public advisory council for overseas information set up in April 1978 ceased operations three years later. A public relations expert was hired in 1983 on a nine-month contract, which was not renewed.

Efforts to involve Israeli students who are abroad for a year or more in information projects did not always

succeed for various reasons, the state comptroller noted. He also found "cause for concern" that for nearly two years, the ministry did not appoint a minister for information in the Washington embassy, with the task of supervising the information work of all the missions in the United States.

The Foreign Ministry does not have criteria for selecting diplomats for information posts overseas. In a number of cases, the choices were shown to have been unsuitable. The state comptroller urged the Ministry Appointments Committee to take this problem into account.

DURING the 1980s, the ministry's information budgets were far lower than in the 1970s (e.g., in 1976—18.8 per cent of the total; in 1985—11.4 per cent of the total). Nevertheless, in 1984, half of the overseas missions spent less than 85 per cent of their information budgets.

The state comptroller told the ministry that underspending of budgets indicated an inadequate scope of information operations. However, the ministry responded that the underspending resulted from financing flow problems, as well as the lack of data from the accountant-general at the Treasury on budget implementation.

The fact that the Foreign Ministry was uncertain about the amount of budget expended and the amount still at its disposal frequently deterred ministry staff in Israel and over-

seas from proceeding with further information projects, the state comptroller noted.

The Information Department keeps a record of all information material sent abroad, but it possesses no system for getting credible feedback from the recipients of the material.

Sometimes, information work overseas is adversely affected by the delays in preparing and supplying the basic material. The state comptroller noted, for example, that the handbook *Facts about Israel* took some three years to bring out in its most recent edition, "a period of time longer than the most pessimistic forecasts."

The Foreign Ministry finances the publication of a periodical destined for overseas information work, through the medium of one association in Israel which does the publishing and another association which handles distribution and is based abroad.

The ministry transfers funds to the association in charge of publication, but without checking the association's income and expenditure. Nor

does the ministry have accurate information on the number of subscribers to the periodical.

In April 1983, the Information Department became concerned about possible financial mismanagement in the publication and distribution of the periodical. The ministry inspector-general who made enquiries found a number of discrepancies, one involving a sum of \$12,300 supposedly transferred from the association publishing in Israel to the association distributing abroad, which never arrived. Another discrepancy involved a sum of \$2,500, spent without convincing explanation.

Further inquiry turned up a cheque in the amount of \$15,000, endorsed to the account of the publishing association in Israel, which does not appear in its books. The state comptroller complains that the ministry's efforts to explain this lacuna are unsatisfactory as well.

THE COMPTROLLER also notes that the ministry has failed to implement the Information Department's demand to assess the periodical's

contribution to Israel's overall information campaign.

The Information Department finances the sending of lecturers and youth delegations overseas. But it has no central list of who was sent, for what purpose, to where and with what results. It has no supervision either over lecturers sent out by the senior echelons of the ministry.

The department has a section for audio-visual aids in a variety of media. In 1985, for instance, it ordered the production of 11 videotape programmes for television distribution. But it does not receive detailed reports from overseas missions on the use and the suitability of such programmes in the field. It thus has difficulty in knowing how effective this information arm is, and whether the product sent out is capable of delivering the message.

The Information Department has a budget for assisting foreign television organizations filming in Israel, mostly on non-political themes. But since September 1984, in the wake of an internal reorganization in the department, no records have been kept concerning such assistance, or

whether the material filmed was telecast.

The Foreign Ministry runs a film library for 16mm films, which in 1984 contained 237 titles in 725 copies in many languages. In June 1984, for the first time ever, a film catalogue was prepared and distributed to overseas missions. Most of the films are very old. In fact 86 per cent of them were shot before 1975. Because of the great expense of 16mm films, their production has virtually stopped since 1984.

IN THE 1960s, in the wake of the ministry's budgetary difficulties and pressure from local Jewish communities, a number of overseas missions established local operational funds. The ministry accordingly published official procedures for running such funds, and stipulated the purposes for which the funds could be used, such as financing visits to Israel by local personalities and subsidizing information work.

The state comptroller commented that it is improper for Israeli missions abroad to collect contributions to supplement their operational budget. He would prefer that the local Jewish communities manage the funds, if they see fit to participate in information work on behalf of Israel.

When the Knesset State Control Committee debated the report on these funds at overseas missions, it noted that the missions had not sought the approval of the Treas-

ury's budget division before establishing the funds. Neither had the head office of the ministry in Jerusalem approved the establishment of the funds nor inspected the expenditure of the money. Some missions spent money from the funds on purposes other than those for which the fund was set up.

Subsequently, in the wake of the state comptroller's opinion, the Knesset plenum decided that the missions must hand the funds over to local management.

The Foreign Ministry did nothing to carry out the Knesset ruling. In the same period, two additional funds were set up. In 1984 the number of funds totalled 23.

The ministry has no information as to whether any of the missions has appointed a committee of three officials to take responsibility for managing the funds. It has no lists detailing the names of the fund contributors and the money they donated. As for the two latest funds, the ministry gave its official approval, but it failed to apply to the Treasury for approval.

In January 1986, the Foreign Ministry assured the state comptroller that during the course of the year, it would examine ways of transferring the funds to the control of the local communities, through the medium of a special committee appointed by the ministry director-general and chaired by the ministry inspector-general.

Civil guard falls short of meeting standards, lacks sufficient training

A WIDE gap exists in the Civil Guard between the guidelines intended for the 10-year-old, 75,000-member voluntary force and its performance in the field. The State Comptroller found few, if any, volunteers have been working evening and late-night shifts, while a lack of communications equipment or the use of faulty equipment has prevented patrols from calling for help in emergency cases.

A number of inactive volunteers were found to be carrying police-issue weapons, and active volunteers equipped with weapons were found to be untrained in their use. According to the report, 14 to 30 per cent of all Civil Guard volunteers have not undergone the required annual firing-range examination.

Furthermore, some branches of the Civil Guard were found to possess far more weapons than the quantity allotted to them by law. In the Northern District, some 746 extra handguns were discovered to be in the Civil Guard's possession, and another 500 extra guns in the Southern District's. The Comptroller re-

commended an immediate transfer of extra handguns to the central police warehouse.

To deal with complaints of unseasonable behaviour against volunteers, especially youth volunteers, high school students last year were limited to patrols once every two weeks. Nevertheless, the comptroller found youths working as often as twice a week.

As for the Prisons Service, the report's major complaint was the lack of employment opportunity afforded the approximately 8,000 inmates, especially the 4,500 prisoners held in security prisons on the West Bank. According to the report, the Prisons Service could offer prisoners more employment opportunities by encouraging private businesses to set up shop inside prison walls.

The report cited the low quality of advisers hired by the Prisons Service for professional training. The report suggested that the Prison Service hire fewer untrained counsellors and instead take on a handful of educated, professional trained advisers.

Barbara Amouyal

Probe recommended over loans to moshavim

THE \$15.4 million budgeted in 1982 to the Ministry of Agriculture to aid distressed moshavim with loans was not properly allocated in many instances, and controls over how the money was spent were inadequate, the State Comptroller found in its investigation of the ministry. It recommended a criminal investigation in one loan connected with the programme.

In some cases, the money was not distributed to the individual moshavim but kept by the moshav itself. The ministry took no action to remedy the situation. In other cases the moshavim who received ministry loans from the special fund actually increased their debts rather than reduce them as the loans were intended to do.

In another instance, the comptroller found, two moshavim received loans equivalent to \$26,000, even

though they were not eligible. The money has not been returned to the ministry. The comptroller alleged that the two may have received the loan fraudulently, and the case should be turned over to the police.

In any case, the comptroller said many of the moshavim's financial woes can be traced to internal social and management problems that will not be solved by government aid. The state comptroller recommended the ministry work with the moshavim to tackle the underlying problems before considering financial aid.

The need to probe more deeply into the moshavim's problems takes on a special urgency in light of plans to provide another \$90 million to settlements in distress, the comptroller said.

Yitzhak Oked

Yeshiva gets \$800,000 loan — turns into government grant

YESHIVOT WERE also among those that enjoyed government aid granted against existing regulations. The comptroller's report cited the case of a Jerusalem yeshiva that received an \$800,000 loan from the Treasury in 1982. The loan was approved by the Knesset Finance Committee in 1983, and the money was transferred in August of that year.

Six months later the Accountant-

General's Office was instructed to waive its claim over the loan, which then became a grant. The accountant-general told the comptroller that then-finance minister Yoram Aridor had decided in June 1983 to convert the loan into a grant and to add to it \$2 million for the construction of the yeshiva's buildings. This was done without notifying the Knesset Finance Committee.

A.T.

Interior Ministry unable to crack down on violators

AN ESTIMATED 5,000 to 10,000 foreigners are working illegally in Israel because of incompetence and a lack of resources within the Interior Ministry's population registry, the State Comptroller reported.

Likewise, the population registry has been unable to crack down on temporary residents, who enjoy their privileged status long after their visas have expired, or on Israeli citizens entering and leaving the country on foreign passports. Laxity at the Interior Ministry also resulted in confidential information being given by the population registry to private companies.

The population registry, which was the area of ministry activity which the comptroller investigated last year, is responsible for registering the legal and personal status of residents, for controlling the stay of foreigners and for administering data on the country's population.

It would appear, from the comptroller's findings, that the only foreigners resident in the country illegally that the Ministry can find are those who apply for visa or work permit extensions and are rejected. Those who don't apply simply fade into the landscape because, the Ministry told the comptroller, there is no way of finding them.

These same enforcement problems apply to holders of AI visas, potential immigrants, whose addresses should be readily available. The comptroller found, however, that many holders of AI visas maintain their status indefinitely, continuing to enjoy the benefits, without becoming permanent immigrants.

In a random survey, the comptroller found many families registered as still resident in Israel, who in fact had long since left the country. There were others who had remained in Israel and continued to

receive child allotments from the National Insurance Institute amounting to thousands of dollars, despite their illegal status. The comptroller estimated that there are hundreds, if not thousands, of such families in Israel.

The ministry defended its shortcomings by saying that the company that is supposed to carry out the computer work on border control findings with the population registry had not been able to do so for budgetary reasons.

Similar difficulties in coordinating information had resulted in the failure of the ministry to identify Israelis who had entered the country on foreign passports. By entering on a foreign passport, they can evade currency restrictions and travel taxes, as well as army service, the Comptroller pointed out.

Many of these problems were attributed to a long interim period

during which the registry was working with both written and computerized information. The computer data was not up to date, and was often incomplete or incorrect.

The ministry often pointed to the Treasury for the lack of funds to carry out this necessary work. But the comptroller noted that the ministry itself had been less than diligent in making provision for such allocations. Until the end of the period under investigation, the ministry had failed to choose between a number of different data processing plans and had failed to work with the Treasury to make funds for computerization available.

The State Comptroller also investigated complaints of illegal dissemination of confidential information, resulting from an incident in which inappropriate advertising literature was sent to 15-year-old

girls. In fact, the comptroller found a great deal of confusion within the ministry as to whether computerized tapes with information from the registry could be given, for example, to political parties.

The comptroller found that the ministry's legal adviser mistakenly allowed confidential information to be given out to private firms.

If the Ministry's reaction to last year's report is any indication, the comptroller report is unlikely to result in any changes. Last year the State Comptroller criticized the Interior Ministry's registry of the private organizations known as Ottoman societies. This year's follow-up indicated that the Ministry had not improved its supervision of such groups and indeed, found that the service to the public in this area had actually worsened.

Haim Shapiro

Kindergartens accused of 'careless management'

IN ITS FIRST investigation ever of the Agudat Yisrael network of kindergartens, the State Comptroller found evidence of careless management and inefficiency that has left the schools with a chronic deficit.

The autonomous Aguda network does not insist that parents pay their fees and has not made adequate efforts to collect on returned checks and debts, past due, the comptroller found. The Beit Ya'acov religious

high schools suffer from poor accounting practices.

Aguda's expenses, however, have been higher because, among other things, the network's 510 employees (not including teachers and their aides) enjoy benefits not enjoyed elsewhere in the public sector. A full-time administrative position in the Aguda network, for example, requires only 28 hours of work a week, compared with 40.5 hours for

a mother with a child under eight in the public sector. Any hours worked beyond the 28 are considered overtime and the hourly wage is 50 per cent higher, the comptroller reported.

"If the number of work hours required in the Aguda network was the same as that of the state workers, it is almost certain that they would save on overtime and reduce the deficit," the comptroller concluded.

Other examples of unjustifiable spending cited by the comptroller include the network's practice of providing division heads with a car (including insurance, gas and maintenance) in addition to cabfare. The comptroller discovered in one instance a \$569,000 bill for a trip by cab from Bnei Brak to Rishon Le-Zion, taken June 6, 1985. In another case, a pedagogic supervisor was found to have a private cab

assigned to her full-time that waits while she is visiting schools. For a four-day period in November 1985, her bill was \$3,072.00.

The comptroller also found fault with the overall bureaucratic make-up of Aguda schools, which puts much power in the hands of a few individuals. The office manager and treasurer of the network is the daughter of the director-general.

Joel Rebibo

Holocaust Day Literature



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ON MEMORIAL DAY it is traditional for families to visit the graves of their loved ones in military cemeteries. Two years ago, my wife and I were drawn to Mt. Herzl to pay tribute at one of the graves. We anticipated the visit with trepidation. The cemetery, in which thousands of soldiers are buried, would be filled with grieving parents, wives, children, brothers, sisters and friends. We expected a sad and sombre experience.

Our purpose was to visit the grave of Matie (Meir) Silber, a young volunteer from the South African Jewish community, who fell in the battle for Ramat Rahel. He was the only son — the only child — of my mother's cousin, Abraham, and his wife, Dora.

WHEN MATIE was at high school he was attracted to the Betar youth organization, becoming one of its most active and dedicated leaders. The Jewish struggle for freedom and armed resistance to British manda-

tory policy affected him deeply and he decided to go to Palestine in order to participate in it.

Easier said than done. In those days Jews needed British immigration certificates to enter the country and these were hard to come by. Matie made several abortive attempts to get to Palestine illegally by sea and overland. He returned to Port Elizabeth disappointed but determined to try again.

His parents, of course, wanted him to complete his university studies in engineering; to stay home with them a little longer. It seemed they had a premonition and every extra day with their son was precious.

Matie was torn between devotion to his parents and the urge to serve

his people. Then, Dov Gruner, the Irgun hero, was executed and I received a telegram saying: "Dov had made up my mind. I'm going — Matie."

This time he reached Palestine, reported to the Irgun command and underwent a tough basic training. He was considered to be leader material and was sent to an officers' course. In a letter he wrote me in that period he said that those were the happiest days of his life.

Before joining an active Irgun unit, he was required to adopt an underground name and, on learning that Abba Hillel Silver, the famous American Zionist leader, was in the

country at the time, he adopted "Hillel" as his nom d'guerre. He took part in a number of actions leading up to the proclamation of the state on May 15 and was elated and proud that he had taken part in the great event. He recorded his impressions and sentiments on a tape to be sent to his parents and friends.

A FEW DAYS after Independence Day, Matie was part of the small force sent to defend Ramat Rahel, a kibbutz on the southern edge of Jerusalem. A number of times they repelled Arab bands who crossed the valley and tried to reach the kibbutz.

Finally Matie was hit and was later found dead in a trench by his friends. It was May 25 — ten days after the creation of the State of Israel. He was 20 years old.

His parents were stunned and inconsolable. Matie was the apple of their eye. His last tape never reached them. It was lost in the chaos and confusion. His mother never recovered from the blow and died within a year. After some time his father settled in Israel to be "near Matie". He was a broken, sick man and he took his grief with him to his grave. That was the end of their little family. There was no one else.

of service at our embassy in Washington, we felt compelled to visit Matie's grave on Memorial Day. His parents' had died; there were no brothers or sisters; no wife or girlfriend. All the other graves would surely be visited. Someone would be there to shed a tear, to place a flower, to offer a prayer, to salute a brave young soldier. No one else would come to Matie's grave.

At Har Herzl a man in the office looked up the details, the number, the section and accompanied us to the area where the first graves of independent Israel were situated.

We walked along narrow paths, climbed some steps and reached Section A. And then slowly wending our

way between the graves we found it — and looked at it incredulously.

THE GRAVE was covered with flowers. Each one appeared to have been placed carefully. Was it the right grave? Yes, Meir Silber, son of Abraham, died on May 25, 1948. So, who had been there before us? Who had placed the flowers? The other graves too were similarly covered with flowers. And then we heard the story.

The previous day some volunteer girl soldiers visited Mount Herzl — and presumably other military cemeteries — and placed flowers on the graves.

Tears filled our eyes. Matie was not alone. He was not forgotten. All Israel is his family. This is *ahavat Israel* and *ahavat am Israel* in the fullest meaning of the words.

This is what makes the people of Israel very special and great.

The writer is an adviser to the vice premier.

A very special people

Zvi Harry Hurwitz describes a surprising visit to a military cemetery

Blossoming at age 80

PHILIP GILLON

WALTER FRANKL, the doyen of Israeli gardeners, as well as the country's most famous long-distance runner some decades ago, took on two new major jobs shortly before he celebrated his 80th birthday recently.

He was invited by the Dan Carmel Hotel to lay out new gardens in its difficult terrain at the top of the Carmel. This was done at the suggestion of Ami Federman, who knew how successful Frankl had been with the King David Hotel's gardens — the Dan Carmel and the King David both belong to the Federman chain. His other new assignment is to advise on the gardens of the president's house.

These are by no means the totality of Frankl's new interests at 80, quite apart from the numerous obligations he has been discharging for many years. At the moment he is trying to think of ways to help Orthodox gardeners to cope with the year of the *shmita*, which begins at the coming New Year. During the *shmita* year, an Orthodox gardener can give existing plants water and nutrients — but cannot plant.

"The problem is soluble," Frankl says. "You can plant perennials, like gazanias, just before the year begins. Then there are a lot of self-seeding flowering plants like nasturtiums."

One of Frankl's current campaigns is to get synagogues throughout the country to introduce gardens around the buildings. He believes that the Orthodox synagogues do not realize how much their congregations would appreciate beautiful environments.

"I am finding that there has been an upsurge of interest in gardening among the Orthodox," Frankl says exultantly. "I was invited by people living in the Jewish Quarter of the Old City to give them a seminar on how they could develop gardens despite the nature of the quarter. I taught them to grow roof and balcony gardens. Later they asked me to give a course to their schoolchildren. The children gave me placards proclaiming: 'We follow Walter's advice.'"

Frankl believes that the municipalities should call meetings of Orthodox community leaders to discuss the beautification of synagogues by means of gardens. He is prepared to address such meetings or to conduct seminars if asked. "Nothing is impossible," he maintains. "Just look at how we have got thousands of Israelis to appreciate the beauty of gardens. We should be able to get the message through to the synagogues as well."

Another cause dear to his heart is greening the walls of Jerusalem. "We turned the desert of the Negev green in many places," he says. "So of course we can green the walls of apartment blocks." He ridicules the contention that creepers like ivy would mar the unique character and beauty of walls built from Jerusalem

stone. "What nonsense!" he exclaims. "If you go to England, you will see buildings made of lovely old brick, centuries old, with creepers all over them. The same thing applies to great castles. As a matter of fact, we have a most dramatic example right at home, in the Western Wall: the plants that somehow take root in its crevices are wonderful."

But there may be one fly in the ointment that may hinder his imperialist ambitions for flowers: they are great consumers of water. We are entering a very difficult summer, because of the drought throughout the winter; in fact, there is talk of rationing water for existing gardens. How does he advise gardeners to cope with the problems caused by the drought?

"We are certainly going to have a difficult summer," he admits, "but that is no reason to curtail our gardening activities. I am afraid that my main advice is to substitute the water from the sweat of the brow for the water from the tap. In other words, harder work. We have to accept that we are not living in England or on the western seaboard of the United States, where rainfall is not only plentiful, it is also well-spaced. We live in a semi-arid region, where the rainfall is concentrated in winter storms."

"We can learn from the people who have been living in the area for generations about how to cope with an inhospitable environment. The Beduin, for instance, produce watermelons in very arid conditions. Ninety per cent of a watermelon consists of water."

"How do the Beduin achieve such astonishing results with watermelons? By hard work. They dig all around the plants with little hoes. This enables the dew to seep through to the roots. I don't say that we have to work all this hard, but we can apply the principles of the Beduin."

"Another thing we will have to do is reduce the number of times we water our lawns. If we cut down the watering to a half or even less, the lawns will still survive and even flourish. The plants we select for this summer should be shrubs, perennials and trees not affected by a lack of artificial water. Cacti and succulents don't need lots of water."

Frankl is not only a teacher; he practises what he preaches. The garden of his home is a little Eden. He and his wife, Lotte, live in the lowest apartment in a famous block in Rehavia, Beit Kadima. Prior to the War of Independence, it was occupied by the Palestine Commission, under an arrangement with the British Mandatory regime. The Frankls' flat was the home of the Czech delegation. The Frankls moved in at the request of the Jewish Agency and the Hagana, as Beit Kadima was right on the frontier, with the Arab Legion a stone's throw away. Sometimes it was a grenade's throw.

Gardener Walter Frankl

(Karen Ben-Zion)

After the war, other people took over the remaining flats. Below the Frankls was a large tract of stony, sandy ridges, facing north (the wrong direction in Israel), in shade, and on a steep slope. The area belonged to the building.

The other tenants had the good sense to hand the area over to Frankl and to give him a free hand to do whatever he liked with it. He turned the slopes into little terraces. Then he carried soil in baskets from the nearby fields.

He planted and planted and planted. Several years ago, he had filled every square inch of available land with plants, trees and flowers. He went vertical: flowers grow in innumerable pots hanging from trees or on ledges. There are also three-layer baskets hanging from the trees.

"I gave a course at Kibbutz Golan," Frankl explains. "They produce fans, which are protected by wire netting. Some of these nets are defective, and they throw them away as rejects. I asked them to give them to me. I use them for hanging plants. People have been forced to come to terms with vertical living, because of the pressure of the population on the available space, the same thing has happened to my plants."

Frankl's garden is a garden of Eden. It is the sort of paradise conceived by the French impressionist Henri Rousseau. We have a gathering, if not of exiles, then at least of immigrants. Exotic plants abound. An eight-metre rubber plant, grown from a leaf, dominates the scene. There are Bromelias from Brazil. "I was sent a single plant by a Brazilian lady 30 years ago," Frankl recalls, "and look what came of it." Orchids also immigrated from South America.

There are — shades of Alexandre Dumas! — black tulips from Holland. Dutch tulips of more ordinary colours are prevalent. Camellias were grown from a culture sent from France.

Everywhere there are less exotic flowers: hyacinths, daffodils, nastur-

tiums, violets, pansies, geraniums, roses, fresas, hydrangeas, wild cyclamen and sweet-peas. Among the trees are apple and walnut.

Creepers intensify the jungle effect. One corner of the garden is devoted to cacti.

But Frankl warns not all plants acclimatize easily.

"Everything has to be tested for diseases," he says, "and not everything takes root or thrives here. It is a matter of trial and error. If the Jews have a fault as gardeners, it is that they want to get their results very, very quickly. It takes decades to grow something like a coconut tree, but it's worth waiting for."

Asked what names he addresses his pets — their Latin or Greek names, or their English names, or their Hebrew names, he replies "It varies."

"The Latin or Greek names of plants were given to them by Carl Linnaeus, who classified thousands of plants in the eighteenth century. English names come from distant folklore. The Hebrew classification was done by Aaronsohn, Eil, Zohary, Feinbrun and Fahn. Sometimes Hebrew names take, sometimes they don't. I use whatever name comes naturally to my tongue."

The Dan-Carmel people were so thrilled with Frankl's planning and execution of their new gardens that they invited him, Lotte, their children and grandchildren to go there during the Passover holidays as guests of the hotel. He and Lotte were naturally delighted.

Lotte was born in Darmstadt and came to Palestine in 1935, four years after Walter arrived.

She taught school for many years and helped Walter to run his famous summer camps for teenagers.

Unlike her husband, she has retired. "I'm content to be a back-room girl now," she says. "There must be somebody to support Walter in all the things he's doing. And also to try to stop him doing too much — although I must admit that I find this to be impossible."

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A GOOD MANY readers who are planning a sabbatical or other sojourn in England write me to ask why the English are "so unreasonable" about bringing dogs and cats into the country. This, of course, because the British require six months quarantine for any animal entering the country.

Actually, there's nothing unreasonable about the British regulations, but to appreciate this one has to understand something about the epidemiology and epidemiology of rabies, for it is because of this dread disease the regulations exist.

Rabies is a viral disease that can and does attack all mammals and, in some rare cases fowl. It is transmitted by the bite of a rabid animal only during the last few days of its life. This means that although the disease may take several months to develop in a bitten person or animal, it is only infective if the virus had reached the brain of the offending animal, and it

had become what we call rabid. During this period there are a few days, seven to 10 at the most, when the rabid animal can transmit the disease. That is why an animal that bites is quarantined for 10 days. If it is still healthy after that period, then it is not infected with rabies and the bitten person or animal is in no danger.

But this means nothing when we are discussing the latent incubative period. If a dog is bitten by an animal with rabies, it may seem perfectly healthy for months before it suddenly becomes rabid and therefore infective.

That is why the British, who live in one of the few places in the world that is rabies-free, require a quarantine as rigorous as six months. England is an island, and therefore can be isolated from the continent of Europe where rabies is always present in wildlife, and at times in domestic animals. Incidentally, the

Mad dogs and Englishmen

D'vora Ben Shaul explains why Israel is not rabies-free.

quarantine laws in Australia and New Zealand, also two insular land bodies, are even more severe.

IN ISRAEL, rabies is endemic in the local wildlife and every year there are cases of rabies in dogs and in domestic livestock. Fortunately, and in large part due to the public's awareness of the danger from animal bites, human rabies in this country seems to be a thing of the past. In almost every case, people report a bite to the health department.

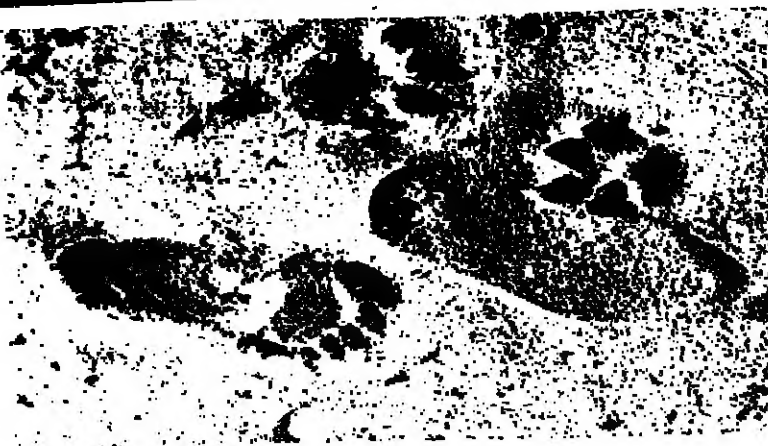
However, there really is no excuse for a dog or a cat getting rabies in

Israel unless the animal is an ownerless stray. While it is not yet possible to vaccinate all the foxes, jackals and the like in the country against the disease, dogs have to be vaccinated against it every year, beginning at the age of three months. This is required by law, and failure to comply gives the Veterinary Service the right to destroy the animal in question.

In fact, most people inside the Green Line and the Jewish settlers in the West Bank do vaccinate their dogs. Unfortunately, the Arab population in the West Bank do not usually do so, and so far the Veterinary Service has never seen fit to do anything about it. The presence of these unvaccinated animals is a natural bridge of rabies infection between the wildlife where the disease exists and the human and domestic animal population of the whole area.

Another thing most people forget is that although the vaccination of pet cats against rabies is not required by law as it is for dogs, it is highly recommended. At least people in moshavim and kibbutzim, and in suburban districts where the family cat wanders off into the unpopulated areas around them, should see to it that the domestic cat also gets a vaccination every year. Cats may get rabies rarely, but they can get it and they do.

Something else that should be mentioned is that if your pet animal is bitten by an unknown dog or by a wild animal, you should on no account touch the wound or handle the dog without first putting on a pair of rubber gloves. Then you can wash the animal with running water and soap, and clean up the wounds. In any case, before you do anything, do ring your veterinary surgeon and ask him what to do. While there are no cases on record of



a vaccinated dog getting rabies, any dog bite is a serious matter, and should not be taken lightly. After all, rabies is almost invariably fatal in humans. Only a couple of cases have been recorded where, with the use of intensive care life-

support systems, the victims survived. For this reason, it is always to be taken seriously. So do get your dog vaccinated at once if you have not yet done so. The Englishmen are not so mad, it seems, when it comes to mad dogs.

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Pension plans' draw is at government's expense

By PINHAS LANDAU
Post Finance Reporter

The State Comptroller this year followed up its findings in a report published three years ago on the Treasury's overreliance on special long-term savings-cum-insurance schemes called *bituach menaholim*.

These programmes are operated by commercial insurance companies and are generally aimed at higher-income earners. They compete with pension funds and the bank-operated provident funds, offering either a steady income or a lump-sum payment to retirees. They also include elements of savings for redundancy pay and for insurance against the death or incapacitation of the trustee.

Contributions are paid on a monthly basis by both employer and employee, although the policy is maintained exclusively in the em-

ployee's name. The insurance companies are obliged to invest the bulk - currently 84% but at one time 100% - of their premiums from these policies in special long-term bonds issued by the Treasury.

THE STATE
COMPTROLLER
REPORT NO. 36
1986

The State Comptroller's report noted that the overhead costs of the *bituach menaholim* schemes is far higher than that for pension or provident schemes. According to the Capital Markets Department at the Treasury, as much as 30% of total premiums are deducted for administrative expenses - primarily as commissions of insurance agents, compared with an average 8% in other pension savings. The high cost is partially borne by the employer and employee, but falls primarily on the Treasury. The employer's contribution is tax-deductible, and the employee eventually receives his savings free of tax.

But the report noted that the tax incentives given to savings in *bituach menaholim* policies are far greater than those available in other pension frameworks. Some of these incentives have been formally authorized while others stem from loopholes

that - as the previous comptroller's report pointed out - the Treasury has consistently failed to close.

The tax relief given to the employer and employee apply to the total premiums contributed by the two sides, while the actual sum saved, most of it in government paper, is only 70% of this amount. The comptroller noted that a certain improvement took place after the appearance of the earlier audit, as the new policies of the Adif type have lower overhead costs and hence give greater value to the employee. Most of the tax relief loopholes, however, have survived untouched.

This tax relief represents a concealed government subsidy, the comptroller pointed out. Although this state of affairs has existed for many years, the income tax authorities have never bothered to estimate what it costs the government in lost revenue. The Treasury's actuary, however, calculated that the unauthorized and exceptional tax relief was in the area of \$50 million in the last tax year. This estimate, the State Comptroller stressed, represents a very cautious calculation.

The tax savings in these schemes are of most value to people in the highest-income brackets, because they raise the ceilings on tax-exempt savings and severance pay.

In addition, *bituach menaholim* schemes, as well as other index-linked savings schemes run by insurance companies, benefit from guaranteed terms for the full life of the policy or the policy-holder, even if conditions change in the economy or the capital markets. This is not the case in other long-term saving programmes.

The comptroller rejected the explanations offered by the Treasury regarding some of the points raised in the previous report. The Treasury failed to explain why all the shortcomings noted in the earlier report had not been corrected - despite the fact that the Knesset had demanded that it do so in February 1984 and the Treasury's own stated intention at that time that it intended to correct them.

OIL IMPORTS. - The value of Jordan's oil imports, all from Iraq and Saudi Arabia, fell 1.5 per cent last year from 1984 to 603 million dinars (\$1.74 billion), the Energy and Mineral Resources Ministry said yesterday.



Striking civil servants face police last summer. (Rahamin Israeli)

Economic policy is off to good start

By SHLOMO MAOZ
Post Economic Editor

"As this period of the economic stabilization programme draws to a close, the seeds of success can be seen in important sectors."

That is how the State Comptroller summed up his critique of the results of the government's economic policy, implemented in July 1985. It is one of the more favourable economic reports written by the State Comptroller in the past decade if not longer. But the comptroller warned that this initial success must be followed up with consistent and strict adherence to the plan, especially in the difficult and painful area of manpower and budget cuts.

The comptroller revealed that the manpower cuts made so far have been significant. The number of employees in the 33 largest government units dropped from 45,491 in April 1984, to 44,027 in October 1985 and 43,798 in December 1985 - a drop of 1,693 employees, or 3.9 per cent. This is a good start, according to the comptroller, but more cuts are needed, especially in the troublesome sector of the government press and public works.

One of the areas noted for irregularities was the State Land Authority's employment rolls. Since 1979 the authority has employed more people than it was budgeted for. All told, 138 people were employed through sub-contractors, 28% more

than it was entitled to. These employees cost the authority IS 870 million in the six month period between April and October of 1985, alone. Thus the government's decision to cut 17 employees from the authority has really no significance.

The ministries overall registered a 7 per cent drop in paid overtime. But in the Prime Minister's Office and the Treasury irregularities in overtime compensation were noted.

In other areas, it appears the government's austerity plans were simply unrealistic. The Health Ministry did not close the Pardes Katz geriatric hospital, and three months after also reneged on its decision to close two nursing schools. The Health Ministry also did not cut projects already in construction stages, resorting instead to the old trick of postponing work orders so that the expenses would appear in the next budget year. This practice was prohibited by the government, which specifically ruled out making cuts by postponing orders. It also turned out that the government was not able to impose the education levy passed in 1984, so that extra revenue was never realized.

Overall, ministries stayed within the confines of their budgets but there were some that, after initial cuts, received supplements that they eventually gave them an increased budget.

Standard of living rose in quarter, but still below '83

By AVI TEMKIN
Post Economic Reporter

The standard of living rose during the first quarter of this year by 5 to 7 per cent from the last quarter of 1985, Central Bureau of Statistics said yesterday. The figure is based on preliminary estimates compiled from wholesale trade and imports statistics.

In the last three months of 1985 the standard of living had increased by some 10 per cent, and spending abroad by Israel's residents rose by some 20 per cent during the first quarter of this year. Despite the recent increase in consumption levels, however, the standard of living is still below the 1983 level, CBS officials said.

The officials said that in the first quarter of 1986 real gross wages had increased by 10 to 11 per cent from the previous quarter, but were still 9 to 10 per cent lower than they were in the first quarter of 1985. Wages in the public sector rose by 7 to 9 per cent in January-March, but were still some 16 to 18 per cent below their level for the same period last year.

The CBS officials said that over the first four months of 1986 the trade deficit, excluding diamonds, fuel, ships and aircraft, increased by an average of 120 per cent. In the last half of 1985 this monthly average totalled \$44m., but in the first four months of the year it shot up to \$95 m. Most of the rise in the deficit was attributed to increased imports of raw materials and investment goods.

The CBS also released final national accounts figures for 1985 which showed that the gross domestic product rose by some 3 per cent. The figures showed that in the first half of 1985, the GDP had increased by 5 per cent annual rate, but in the second half fell by a 4 per cent rate. The CBS said the drop in domestic product in the second half of 1985 was caused by a decrease in domestic demand and a slowdown in the growth of exports.

The figures showed that in 1985 after-tax disposable income fell by some 11 per cent, but the standard of living dropped by only 2 per cent. This figure indicated that the public tried to avoid a sharp drop in its consumption level by drawing on its savings, officials said.

TOURISM BRIEFS

By GREER FAY CASHMAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

THE TOURISM MINISTRY, the Jerusalem Hotel Association, the King David Hotel and the Jordan Valley Regional Council have joined forces to create an event which will give tourists in the capital a sense of the Independence Day spirit. Tourists are invited to the King David to sing along with Sarale Sharon, the country's queen of community singing. Special song-books with translations of the Hebrew have been prepared. Admission is by invitation only. Invitations are available at Jerusalem hotels.

A FORMER ENTERTAINER appearing on the Club Med international circuit has been appointed as head of the Ashkelon Resort Village. He is Ronnie Shimoni, 42, who is responsible for special events, sport and entertainment. He is also in charge of the 30-member special events team.

PAR FOR THE COURSE. The Kal company, which specializes in resort vacations and internal tourism, has indirectly become a marriage broker through its successful campaigns for singles. The company says its weekend and other vacation packages in resort centres all over the country have brought singles together. Kal also participates in the radio programme for singles, *A Friend From the Same Planet*.

THE NATIONAL PARKS Authority celebrated the opening of Eshkol,

the second largest park in the country, with a festive ceremony attended by Prime Minister Peres. Located between Ashkelon and Beersheba near Ofakim, the 3,500 dunam park took 10 years to complete. It has lush, spacious lawns, thousands of trees and a lake for swimmers. It is one of 37 sites administered by the National Parks Authority.

DESPITE THE HESITANCY by Americans to travel abroad, TWA remains a major factor in the transatlantic market, having added 11 new European destinations in the past two years. The most recent is Stuttgart, which has been on the TWA flight schedule since April this year. TWA is also offering non-stop 747 flights between New York and Honolulu and a non-stop 1011 service between Los Angeles and Honolulu.

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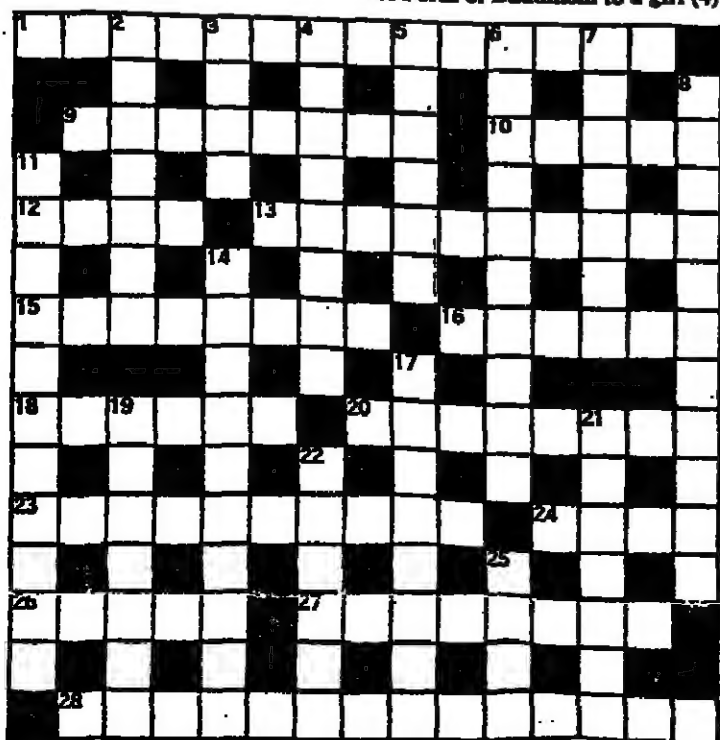
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- ACROSS**
- 1 Don't worry about me, sailor! (2,5,5,4)
 - 3 Such a programme may be news to viewers (8)
 - 10 & 12 Sound barrier broken? Bang on! (5,4)
 - 13 An honour for a speech at the end of last month (10)
 - 15 No prospect of decrease in television watching (8)
 - 16 Influenced by swing music, perhaps (6)
 - 18 Apply make-up again? (6)
 - 20 Moor once dull stirred in battle (8)
 - 23 Shook Gable's hand in the country (10)
 - 24 Fruit that's snail-like, say (4)
 - 26 Amusing poetess taking part over at once (5)
 - 27 Thin pole adapted for use in a rowing boat (5,3)
 - 28 Latest practice at the fashion show (5,9)
- DOWN**
- 2 Substance giving splendid service on the pitch (7)
 - 3 National emblem found in Staffordshire (4)
 - 4 Ana, one sees, is upset some way or another (2,1,5)
 - 5 Former Test skipper shed weight (8)
 - 6 Merely an undulating movement at sea, fortunately (4,2,4)
 - 7 Way to act shrewdly but can one lie so soundly (7)
 - 8 Smell a rat, possibly (5,6)
 - 11 The price of wisdom, according to Job, of interest to the jewellery trade? (5,6)
 - 14 Show of hostility Othello gave Desdemona (5,5)
 - 17 Light attractive creature after the cat? (4,4)
 - 19 Entertainment above average (5,4)
 - 21 Pools around with a great many friends (7)
 - 23 Somehow tried to get round a pressman (6)
 - 25 Form of Buddhism to a girl (4)



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Jerusalem: Kupat Holim Clalit, Romema, 232191, Baitam, Salah Eddin, 272315. Shu'fat, Shu'fat Road, 810108. Dar Aldehwa, Herod's Gate, 282058. Tel Aviv: Ziva, 52 Ezel, 378403. Lev Ha'ir, 89 Ahad Ha'am, 613862. Netanya: Neot Shaked, Azorim Commercial Centre, 52484. Haifa: Hanita, 22 Hanita, Neveh Sha'an, 231905.

Wednesday, May 14, 1986 Yem Ha'atzmaut

Jerusalem: (day) Mount Olives, Mount Olives, 287480. Baitam, Salah Eddin, 272315. Shu'fat, Shu'fat Road, 810108. Dar Aldehwa, Herod's Gate, 282058. (evening) Kupat Holim Clalit, Romema, 287480. Tel Aviv: (day) Ziva, 52 Ezel, 378403. Lev Ha'ir, 89 Ahad Ha'am, 613862. Netanya: Neot Shaked, Azorim Commercial Centre, 52484. Haifa: Baitam, 1 Masada, 662288.

DUTY HOSPITALS
Jerusalem: Hadassah Ein Kerem (pediatrics, E.N.T.); Bikur Holim (internal, obstetrics); Sha'are Zedek (surgery, orthopedics, ophthalmology). Tel Aviv: Rokah (pediatrics, internal, surgery). Netanya: Laniado.

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Hadera 22333
Haifa 512233
Hizor 36333
Holon 808133

Jerusalem 623133
Kiryat Shmona 44334
Nahariya 523333
Netanya 22333
Pithul Tikva 8231111
Ramat Gan 451333
Rishon LeZion 942333
Safed 30333
Tel Aviv 2240111
Tiberias 50111

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Yesterday's Solution

ACROSS: 1 Holly, 4 Volle, 10 Galsay, 11 Sabre, 12 Tango, 13 Natural, 15 Mead, 17 Greed, 19 Mould, 22 Ape, 25 Pastime, 27 Ditch, 29 Crime, 30 Repress, 31 Jetty, 32 Aside.

DOWN: 2 Orion, 3 Lissome, 5 Onset, 6 Liberal, 7 Agate, 8 Hyena, 9 Hello, 14 Alms, 16 Edam, 18 Restive, 20 Odious, 21 Speck, 23 Perry, 24 Chasm, 26 Inert, 28 Tweed.



Dov Lautman

Delta chief takes helm of Manufacturers Association

By MACABEE DEAN

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The incoming President of the Manufacturers Association, Dov Lautman, 50, is one of Israel's most successful textile industrialists, having founded Delta in Carmiel in 1975. Today, slightly more than a decade later, the firm has grown to 14 plants scattered throughout the Galilee, and employs some 2,000 workers, many of them Arabs and Druse. Exports, mainly to Europe, have grown by about 15 per cent a year to around \$40 million today.

Delta has received Israel's Outstanding Exporter award, and Lautman, himself, received the Outstanding Industrialist prize awarded by the Manufacturers Association in 1982.

Lautman's and Delta's success has stemmed from several factors.

The first was the company's initial decision to concentrate on one item, men's underwear, which was mass produced on a continuously running production line. The company has since branched out into women's underwear. Second was Lautman's "fashion consciousness," even in this limited field, and his ability to promote and market. Third was the considerable experience he brought to Delta from his work at Sabina between 1963 and 1967 and at Gibor between 1967 and 1975.

Another factor, say those who have worked with him, is Lautman's energy. He has been known to work "two full shifts a day and then a couple of hours of overtime," said one friend. Much of that time, he spent in the field, inspecting the plants, often with foreign buyers. Lautman also makes several trips abroad each year to help move Delta's goods.

He is considered by other textile industrialists as the industry's leading marketing and promotional expert. Although he is generally quiet and reserved, he has been known to raise his voice to get things moving.

Lautman will formally assume the presidency of the Manufacturers Association this Sunday. Few changes are expected in the association's policy as Lautman has been acting president and the right-hand man of the outgoing president Eli Hurvitz.

Hurvitz formally announced last October that he expected shortly to leave his post, which he has held for several years. At the same time Lautman was chosen as his successor.

Moreover, Lautman has been active for many years in forming association policy, most recently as chairman of its Executive Council, a position second only to that of the president.

Lautman was born in Tel Aviv in 1936, and received his degree in mechanical engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He is married and has two sons. One is now serving in the army; the other is in high school.

Top job is split between old bank hand, well-known industrialist

New Leumi heads bring different styles

By PINHAS LANDAU

Post Finance Reporter

Sunday night's board meeting of Bank Leumi resulted in more than a simple personnel change at the top of Israel's largest banking group. Ernest Japhet had been both chairman of the board and chief executive officer at the same time, but these functions will from now on be split. Eli Hurvitz has been appointed as non-executive chairman, and Mordechai Einhorn has been promoted from his post as chief operating officer to chief executive officer.

In plain language, that means that Hurvitz and the board decide what the bank should seek to do, setting policy and approving large loans. Einhorn's job is to implement that policy on a day-to-day as well as long-term basis. The board then has to ensure that what they wanted is what got done.

In practice, Einhorn will direct the movie, and Hurvitz will be the producer. The question is who will write the screenplay: Japhet always said it was the Treasury and the Bank of Israel, so that the lousy plot was not his fault, but of course not everyone accepted his version of events.

In any case, the new structure brings Leumi's board into line with the concept put forward by Examiner of Banks Galia Maor in her directive issued last year. In world banking generally, there is no consensus as to whether a non-executive chairman overseeing a chief executive officer is inherently better than combining both roles in the same person. Maor, however, decided that the recent Israeli experience of all-powerful executives leading their boards by the nose required a pendulum swing in the direction of greater separation of powers.

At the time, Bank of Israel rules allowed banks Leumi and Discount (where Raphael Recanat is chairman and CEO) to continue with their existing structure, and even to maintain it for their successors if they wished. Circumstances have now put Leumi in favour of implementing the split-structure earlier than it was obliged to do. What will happen in Discount remains to be seen.

Meanwhile, the most important job in Israeli banking has gone to the relatively unknown Mordechai Einhorn, although the better-known public figure of Eli Hurvitz has captured the headlines. Einhorn was born in Czechoslovakia in 1930 and reached this country in 1944. He has spent his entire career with Bank Leumi, which he joined in 1950. Einhorn has worked his way right up the corporate ladder; before reaching the pinnacle on Sunday night. He did it without any evidence of *protektzia* or external help.

In the 50s he worked in various departments, before joining the securities department of the main branch in 1960. By 1966 he was department manager but it was two years later that he made his big jump, when he was given the post of securities department manager for the whole bank.

In the early stages of his career, before he joined the ranks of senior management, Einhorn was an active member of the works committee.

By 1972 he was an assistant general manager and a rising star in the rapidly expanding Leumi network. He was sent to France in 1974 for a four-year stint as head of the bank's French subsidiary and succeeded in turning the operation into a profit-making unit. Einhorn speaks French at home, and is also said to speak English and German, although not terribly well.

On his return to Israel in 1978, he was appointed head of the international division, moving up to the rank of deputy general manager with the new post. The following years brought further promotions, to joint general manager and, in 1982, when Leumi underwent a major reorganization, to general manager and chief operating officer. That made him undisputed No. 2 to Japhet.



Eli Hurvitz

(Israel Simonsky)



Mordechai Einhorn

(Israel Sun)

During the past year, as Japhet's position eroded under the impact of the Bejski Commission of inquiry, Einhorn's became correspondingly stronger. Although he gave evidence to the commission, which is quoted frequently in the report, his personal involvement in the regulation of share prices only began in October 1982, when he became general manager. Before that, he was abroad and then involved in the international operations. Nevertheless, there can be no question that he, like senior executives in all the banks, was fully aware of what was going on. The financing of the share regulation, in any event, involved branches overseas, notably — in Leumi's case — in the Cayman Islands, as chapter six in the Bejski report makes very clear.

Einhorn is described by those who

know him as "a banker's banker," meaning that he is a professional who knows his work and does it thoroughly but quietly. He is said to be a walking computer, with tremendous recall of facts and figures — an asset that cannot but serve him well. What is certain is that his style is far removed from the urbane charm and old-world European-style banking that characterized Japhet.

But in that respect, Eli Hurvitz might serve as the perfect foil for Einhorn. Hurvitz is almost universally well-liked and respected, particularly for his latter roles as president of the Manufacturers' Association and chairman of the Economic Organizations, the umbrella-group of the employers and the self-employed, which he has headed

since 1981. Among his big fans are Prime Minister Peres, with whom he negotiated the package deals and whom he advises on the economy.

Born in Jerusalem in 1932, Hurvitz is the son of one of the founders of the Assia Pharmaceuticals firm, which was later acquired by Teva. Hurvitz has been managing director of Teva since the acquisition, and of the whole Teva group since it merged with several other pharmaceutical firms in 1976. A few years ago the group merged with the Histadrut-owned Ikapharm/Plantex group, to become a pharmaceuticals group of international size.

Since then, Hurvitz has devoted most of his attention at Teva to breaking into the world market, and has succeeded in setting up a joint venture with a major American company, whose identity remains secret. The U.S. company, although not in the pharmaceuticals business, was looking for the opportunity to enter the field — an opportunity which it decided Teva could offer.

Thus Hurvitz is engaged in that quite rare occupation among Israeli businessmen, strategic planning that looks ahead as much as five and 10 years, and seeks to position his company accordingly. Those who claim that in Japhet, Leumi had a chairman of far-sighted vision may therefore find Hurvitz a suitable replacement, although the fact that his background is not in banking ensures that his approach will be very different.

Hurvitz is no stranger to banking, however. He has been a director of Leumi since 1975. As such, he is unquestionably tainted by the share-price regulation scandal — but then so is almost every other senior figure in the economy.

Tel Aviv Stock Exchange

MARKET STATISTICS

Indices:

General Share Index	115.18	+0.27%
Non-Bank Index	135.03	+0.72%
Arrangement	108.44	+0.04%
Insurance	162.75	+2.56%
Commerce Services	145.97	+0.34%
Real Estate	168.84	+0.81%
Industrials	128.32	+0.88%
Textiles	157.00	+0.82%
Metals	119.84	+0.71%
Electronics	108.28	+1.58%
Chemicals	124.81	+0.06%
Industrial Invest.	115.87	+0.12%
Investment Cos.	128.55	+0.11%
General Bond Index	106.32	+0.28%
Index-linked Bonds	107.20	+0.38%
Fully-linked	105.28	+0.68%
Partially-linked	105.74	+0.15%
Dollar-linked Bonds	88.29	+0.00%
Short-term 0-2 yrs	105.20	+0.21%
Medium-term 2-5 yrs	105.78	+0.31%
Long-term 5+ yrs	104.64	+0.36%

Turnovers:

Shares — total	NIS 9,216,500
Arrangement	NIS 1,784,500
Non-bank	NIS 7,432,000
Bonds — total	NIS 6,189,600
Index-linked	NIS 3,702,900
Dollar-linked	NIS 2,486,700
Treasury Bills	NIS 1,658,400

Share Movements:

Advances	174
Declines	41
of which 5% +	7
"buyers only"	82
of which 5%	1
"sellers only"	1
Unchanged	120
Trading Halt	53

Bond Market Trends:

Index-linked	Rises to 2%
3% fully-linked	

4.25% fully-linked	Mixed to 1%
80% linked	Falls to 1%
90% linked	Mixed to 1%
Double-linked	Mixed 0.5%-1%
Dollar-linked:	
Admon	Mixed to 0.5%
Rimon	Slightly mixed
Gilboa	Mixed to 1%
For. Curr. denominated	Falls to 1%/Rises to 3%
Treasury Bills (monthly yield)	1.22-1.48%

Arrangement yields:

IDB ord.	11.84%
Union 0.1	11.23%
Discount A	11.65%
Mizrahi A	11.82%
Hapoalim r.	11.65%
General A	11.43%
Leumi stock	11.75%
Fin. Trade 1	10.58%

SELECTED PRICE QUOTATIONS

Name	Price	Volume	%	100NIS change
Commercial Banks				
(part of "arrangement")				
Leumi A	1102	2211	-4.1	
General non-arr.	27730	146	-0.9	
First Int'l	3485	3462	-	
FIBI	3800	3108	+0.7	
Commercial Banks (part of "arrangement")				
IDB	80900	332	-	
Union 0.1	60400	83	-0.8	
Discount	103700	68	-0.8	
Mizrahi	33310	878	-0.7	
Hapoalim r.	55194	520	+0.7	
General A	141750	4	-	
Leumi 0.1	34980	1020	-	
Fin. Trade	47200	3	-	
Mortgage Banks				
Leumi mort. r.	4717	219	+0.4	
Dev. Mort.	1350	5384	+8.7	
Mishkan r.	2150	151	+2.4	
Tefhot r.	12000	54	+2.7	
Meyar r.	4388	524	+2.8	
Financial Institutions				
Agrie C	47965	s.o.2	+5.0	
Dev. Dev. DD	no trading			
Capital Leasing 0.1	8390	117	+1.9	
Insurance				
Ararat 0.1 r.	940	1800	-2.1	
Hassneh r.	530	51235	+6.0	
Phoenix 0.1	1470	704	-3.8	
Hemlahmar	5500	2	-	
Menorah 1	8500	12	-	
Sehar r.	4498	271	+10.0	
Zion Hold. 1	17000	31	-	
Trade & Services				
Meir Ezra	no trading			
Superior 2	4760	1301	+1.1	
Delek r.	5210	1240	-	
Lightstar	9999	101	-0.0	
Cold Storage	2041	1993	-	
Dan Hotels	3716	132	-7.5	
Yarden Hotel	2901	984	-4.4	
Hilon 1	12100	26	+7.2	
Team 1	1850	172	-2.1	
Real Estate, Building and Agriculture				
Agorim	605	18433	+5.2	
Elion	388	8838	-	
Africa Int. 0.1	36750	121	-	
Dankner	4280	544	+2.4	
Prop. & Bldg.	2800	2702	+1.8	
Bay Side 0.1	4686	577	-3.0	
LDG r.	49900	451	-1.0	
Rasoor r.	7000	712	+5.8	
Mahadim	5830	368	-0.3	
Hadarim	1080	2630	-1.9	
Industrials				
Dubek b	3390	126	-	
Pri-Ze 1	2362	-1074	-1.2	
Sunfrost	6000	268	+1.9	
Elite	no trading			
Adgar	885	2385	-0.6	
Argaman r.	12700	336	-	
Delta G 1	3380	520	-	
Maquetta 1	29989	23	-0.0	
Eagle 1	11350	138	+2.7	
Polgar 0.4	3970	447	-	
Schoellerma	14600	186	+9.0	
Regon r.	3314	121	+1.8	
Urdan 0.1 r.	11100	224	+0.5	
Is. Can Co. 1	1080	3815	-	
Zion Cables	2200	277	+1.9	
Packer Steel	7900	612	-	
Elbit 3 r.	435200	10	-0.3	
Elion				
Art	389000	10	+2.8	
Ciel Electronics	34100	158	+2.7	
Spectronix 1	2350	6447	+5.1	
T.A.T. 1	3470	106	-	
Agan 5	1470	381	-2.8	
Adan 5	18350	225	-	
Alliance	1425	578	-	
Doctor	3287	215	-	
Fertilizers	5385	158	-	
Haifa Chem.	848	4845	-	
Teva r.	63030	612	-	
Petrochem.	485	21253	-	
Nea Chem.	6000	57	+4.0	
Frutarom	10653	171	+5.0	
Hadera Paper	179100	75	+1.2	
Central Trade	5920	292	-	
Koorp.	5800000	0	+0.9	
Ciel Ind.	1333	7902	-	
Investment Companies				
IDB Dev. r.	3690	3631	-	
Elion	2556	-	-	
Art 1	no trading			
Gabriel	1390	122	+1.5	
Israel Corp. 1	6290	458	+4.3	
Wolfson 1 r.	82150	3	-	
Hapoalim Inv.	4500	657	-	
Leumi Invest.	4574	1000	-	
Discount Invest.	2252	3943	-	
Mizrahi Invest.	16700	33	-	
Ciel 10	2215	1508	-2.4	
Lendecor 0.1	8890	35	+0.2	
Pama 0.1	8538	100	-0.1	
Oil Exploration				
Paz Oil Expl.	12700	63	-0.8	
J.O.E.L.	1420	1629	-	
Abbreviations:				
s.o. sellers only				
b.o. buyers only				
r registered				

Zim moved into black in 1985

Yesterday's story in The Jerusalem Post reporting Zim's 1985 results contained several errors, which appear corrected in this version:

HAIFA. — The Zim company sailed through 1985 — a year which saw many shipping companies founder — with a net profit of \$18.7 million.

The result — which takes into account depreciation, interest on loans and losses on the sale of three ships — marks a strong turnaround from 1984, when the company reported a net loss of \$56m. Profit before these deductions came to \$106m. in 1985, up from \$52.2m. the

previous year.

Zim's turnover fell 5.7 per cent from 1984 to \$706.2m., mostly from the abandonment of unprofitable routes as part of a retrenchment programme. The programme is continuing into 1986, with the aim of reducing turnover to \$650m.

"We must trim 300 employees from our shore staff of 1,060 within weeks and get about half of our debts of \$271m. that are maturing in the next three years scheduled for another five years," said managing director Marty Morgenstern. Zim has a total debt load of \$448m.

FINANCIAL DATA: ISRAEL, EUROPE, U.S.

ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS May 12, 1986

SHEKEL INTEREST RATES
PRIME BORROWING RATE: 1.25% per month
Unlinked Deposit (Annual Rates)

	Last Updated	Tapas	Pakam 7-Day	Pakam 30-Day
LEUMI	12.5	8-18.25%	8-18.25%	8-19%
HAPOLIM	13.2	10-12%	11-12%	12-12.5%
DISCOUNT	9.4	7-15%	7-13%	8-14%
MIZRAHI	8.5	8-16%	8-15%	8-17%
FIRST INT'L	12.3	6-13%	7-13%	6-13%

Rates vary according to size of deposit.
(Tapes: demand deposit paying daily interest.
Pakam: fixed-term deposit available from 7 to 59 days.)

PATAH — FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSIT RATES (as of May 12)

	3-MONTHS	6-MONTHS	12-MONTHS
USD	8.125	6.125	6.250
STG	8.600	8.000	8.625
DMK	4.000	3.675	3.875
SR	3.500	3.500	3.375
YEN	3.125	3.000	3.000

Rates vary according to size of deposit and are subject to change.

THE JERUSALEM POST

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Editor and
Managing Director

Erwin Frenkel
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Founded in 1932 by GERSHON AGRON, who was Editor until 1955; Editor 1955-1974
TED LURIE, Editor 1974-1975 LEA BEN DOR, EDITORIAL OFFICES AND
ADMINISTRATION The Jerusalem Post Building, Romena, Jerusalem P.O. Box 81
(9100) Telephone 551016. TEL. AVIV 11 Rector, Carbach, P.O. Box 20126
(61201) Telephone 294222. HAIFA 16 Rector, Nardas, P.O. Box 4810
(31047) Telephone 645444. Published daily, except Saturday, in Jerusalem, Israel by The
Palestine Post Ltd. Printed by The Jerusalem Post Press in Jerusalem, Registered at the
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Defend the State Comptroller

IF EVER there was a report by the State Comptroller that served to underscore the need for an expansion of his competence, it is the document officially presented on Sunday. And if ever there was a time that demanded the strengthening of the office of State Comptroller, it is the time of the national unity coalition, under which there is no parliamentary opposition strong enough to act as a watchdog over the administration.

Yet instead of extending—or even safeguarding—the present jurisdiction of the State Comptroller, the government has seen fit to introduce legislation that will diminish both his competence and his independence. The relevant bill, Basic Law: The State Comptroller, contains two significant changes in the State Comptroller Law which has been in force since 1949. The first narrows the scope of control exercised by the State Comptroller. Instead of being empowered to inspect and control the finances, property and administration of the state, as he is under existing legislation, the State Comptroller is to be reduced to inspecting government ministries.

The second change is that instead of being "responsible to the Knesset," the State Comptroller is to act "by the power of the Knesset." This formulation appears to create a relationship of dependence, in which the State Comptroller may become an instrument of the Knesset or, at least, have to bow to its (majority) will. There are other proposed changes, too. Under the present law the State Comptroller can be removed from his office only by a two-thirds vote of the Knesset. Under the government's bill, a two-thirds majority of those voting will be enough.

Some of the changes in the law may at first glance seem to be no more than semantic. But in law, semantic changes may end up being substantive differences, even if that was not the original intention.

On March 14 the bill went through its first reading, in what must have been either an inattentive or a rubberstamp Knesset. The legislature seems to have been oblivious of the fact that, unlike some other democratic parliaments, it has no instruments of its own for the collection—let alone extraction—of information from the executive and its analysis, so that it may the better exercise control over the government. It is, and always has been, primarily the State Comptroller who has fulfilled that function—although the Knesset has only sporadically taken advantage of the information yielded through the Comptroller's oversight of the executive.

Clearly, the restriction of the Comptroller's competence to the inspection of government departments will shivel it into insignificance. Most of the really important economic and administrative activities of the state are carried out by the government as a whole, and cannot be pinned down to the responsibility of any particular ministry. Had the proposed legislation already been in force, there would have been no State Comptroller's report on the bank share scandal, and most probably no Bejski Commission either.

Similarly, the provision that the Comptroller's function is to be derived from the power of the Knesset is harmless only on the surface. Until now his competence was derived from the law—and the law, while it may be revised, cannot be tampered with by the Knesset.

It is not difficult to fathom why this bill has been proposed. An independent State Comptroller, attorney-general, or Bank of Israel governor is an inconvenience for the administration. It is therefore no accident that almost simultaneously legislation was introduced (by the then justice minister, Moshe Nissim) to clip the wings of the Comptroller; plans are being set (as witness Vice Premier Yitzhak Shamir's remarks yesterday) to divest the attorney general of most of his powers as legal adviser to the government; and the nomination of a new governor of the central bank is being treated as a political deal.

All these attempts must be resisted, for they amount to an underhanded assault on our democratic system. State Comptroller Yitzhak Tunik deserves the nation's gratitude for carrying his struggle against the proposed legislation affecting his office from the obscurity of Knesset committees straight to the public.

Fast food for prejudices

SURPRISE! The cabinet has discovered that the Jewish People is steadily shrinking in size worldwide, and that the demographic future of Jews in Greater Eretz Yisrael is itself pretty dismal.

This news was conveyed to the cabinet by the renowned statistician, Prof. Roberto Bacchi, and reportedly no one around the green table protested—although the right-wing was amply represented on the occasion—that the "demographic danger" was nothing but a minimalist scarecrow that would be trampled underfoot by the inexorable forward march of Zionist history.

Ministers, Prof. Bacchi later informed newsmen, had been just as disturbed by the fate of Diaspora Jewry as by the dwindling reservoir of immigrants to Israel. But they seem to have been even more disturbed by the prospect of a near equality between Jews and Arabs in the areas currently under Israeli control in the year 2000. If any minister was still of the opinion that such statistics do not matter, he must have been silent Sunday morning.

In fact, ministers hastened to contribute some of their creative ideas to the solution of the so suddenly emergent problem.

Except in the case of Rabbi Yitzhak Peretz, who predictably enough laid the blame for Israel's demographic predicament on Christian, and Mormon, missionaries and on arrangers of meetings between Jewish and Arab youth, the focus of attention was mainly on the low Jewish birthrate. Yosef Burg proposed raising it by coming down hard on illegal abortions; if planned parenthood will not turn the demographic trick, unplanned parenthood will. Yosef Shapira suggested applying funds not used by the Jewish Agency to encourage aliyah, for the promotion of a higher Jewish birthrate. And Shimon Peres, donning the mantle of his late mentor, David Ben-Gurion—or was it Meir Cohen-Avidov's?—would urge all Jewish couples in the land to produce at least four children.

Hearty badinage on this point among ministers is said to have sped the unfunny farce on to its blessed end.

Fortunately, before that happened, two ministers—Amnon Rubinstein and Ezer Weizman—managed to drive in some home truths on the weighty matter of demography. The only way to prevent the looming Arab majority in this country is for Israel to give up heavily Arab-populated occupied territories. This alone will ensure that Israel remains what it was set up to be 38 years ago: a democratic Jewish state. Only such a state will prove a magnet for large numbers of Diaspora Jews, and thus itself be an antidote to the worldwide shrinkage of the Jewish People.

TAKING STOCK

HIRSH GOODMAN

ON THE SURFACE, as Israel enters its 38th year, the strategic situation has never seemed better.

Peace with Egypt, albeit problematic, has survived the assassination of Anwar Sadat, the Lebanese War and continuing Arab diplomatic and economic pressure on Cairo. Israel enjoys *de facto* peace on its border with Jordan, with the Jordanian army facing inward at night to prevent terrorist infiltration into Israel, and not outward against Israel. The situation on the Lebanese front is precariously stable, but stable, with not a single civilian fatality having been registered in the north since the Israel Defence Forces pulled out of Lebanon almost a year ago.

Iraq and Iran remain locked in a debilitating war, now in its sixth year. As a result, the Arab world has split, with Syria becoming isolated due to its support for Iran on the one hand, and a pro-Western axis developing between Cairo, Amman and Baghdad on the other. The continuing war has, at least temporarily, removed these two potential enemies of Israel from the circle of confrontation states.

The drop in the price of oil has had positive economic, diplomatic and strategic consequences for Israel, affecting international Arab influence and the ability of the Arab states to purchase endless streams of sophisticated weapons. The \$21 billion in arms in the pipeline for the confrontation states, destined to arrive in the arena by the end of the decade, have, for the most part, been paid for. But it is doubtful whether Saudi Arabia will this year give Syria the \$2 billion in aid it has been providing annually since 1976, or whether the Jordanians will receive their regular \$800 million grant from the Gulf states, which are faced not only by dropping oil revenues, but the need to prepare for a possible Iranian assault as well.

IN THE KEY strategic area of Israel-U.S. relations, officials in both countries describe these as being "at their highest point ever." They also seem to be based on healthier foundations than before, with the Reagan administration's commitment to Israel moulded on recognition of this country as a strategic asset, not on an imaginary presidential indebtedness to the Jewish vote or Jewish campaign money.

No American administration, with the possible exception of Truman's, has been more understanding of Israel's military, economic, social and diplomatic needs. This has manifested itself in such varied fields as support of the Lavi project, assisting the setting up of Israel-Spanish ties and helping to bring thousands of Ethiopian Jews and Anatoly Shcharansky to Israel.

The same optimistic assessment could be made with regard to Israel's current international relations: in addition to the establishment of relations with Spain, they have already been renewed with the Ivory Coast and are expected soon to be renewed with Poland. Much of the vitriolic European criticism of Israel has subsided since the end of the Lebanese War, and sympathy has increased as the Europeans themselves have become victims of terrorism. Economic ties have been reported with China and Japan, both of which have studiously avoided Israel in the past.

TERRORISM and Syria remain two major problems for Israel. But terror is a tactical problem, not a strategic one and, in the final analysis, terror will not conquer the Jewish state. Syria has reached what President Hafez Assad calls strategic parity with Israel; but Assad knows that his army will still be no match for the IDF if Syria enters war alone—and given the Iraq-Iran war, the peace agreement with Egypt and Jordan's current positions, that would seem to be the probability.

There is no doubt that the price Israel will have to pay in human and physical terms from any confrontation with Syria will be higher than anything paid in the past, given the increased efficiency and destructive power of weapons in the Syrian order of battle.

But there is also little doubt that Israel's response will be devastating and probably pre-emptive; and Assad well understands that, if the entire might of the IDF is directed exclusively against him, the price he will have to pay far outweighs any benefits to be gained from all-out confrontation.

Ideally, one supposes, Assad is interested in keeping the pot bubbling at just below boiling point, adding fuel when pragmatic tactical need dictates tension, and cooling the temperature when the threat of escalation becomes real—as in the December 1985 missile crisis, and with regard to the use of terrorist surrogates in Lebanon and abroad.

TRUE, ISRAEL'S 38th birthday has found the country, including the defence establishment, faced with unprecedented budget cuts. But the drop in oil prices, the evacuation of Lebanon by the IDF, additional American grants and defence contracts, and the fact that Israel is at peace with Egypt and has only to maintain minimal forces on the Jordanian border, have all combined to soften the blow.

While those currently serving in the IDF are receiving less training and lower pay, and while personnel are being fired from defence-related industries, the cuts have not, we gather from the newly-published State Comptroller's Report, affected primary long-range research and development projects and have actually served to generate a more efficient restructuring of the armed forces and allied branches.

There is, however, a danger: complacency. The same complacency and self-satisfaction that engendered the Israeli national smugness that led in 1973 to the Yom Kippur War, with its human cost of 2,838 killed and 8,800 wounded, and its economic cost of \$7.1 billion. Situations in the Arab world change unpredictably. With lightning speed, yesterday's enemies become today's friends, and it should be remembered that some 25 fundamental coalition changes have taken place in the neighbouring Arab world in the past two decades alone.

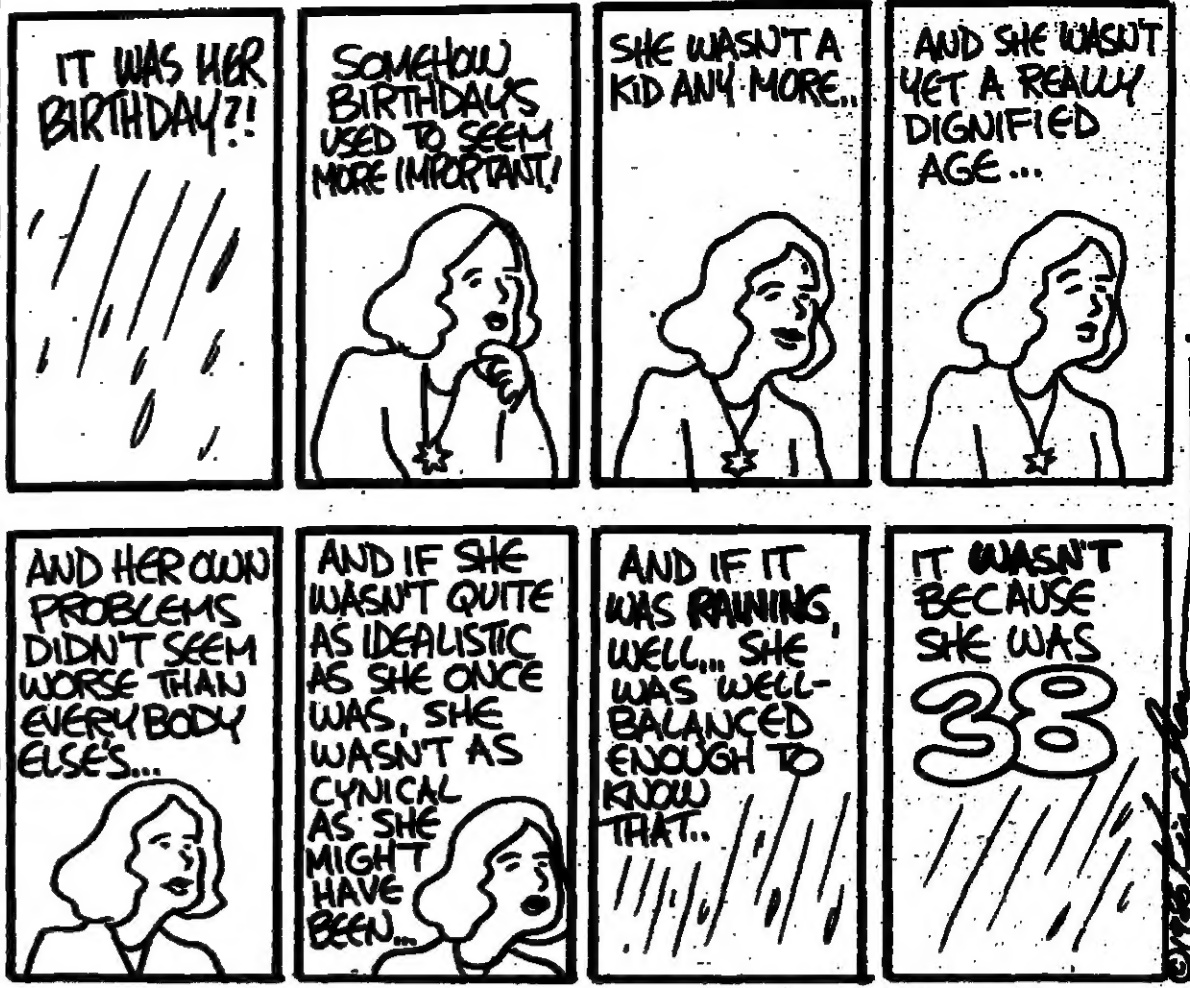
The Iraq-Iran war must end at some stage, and who can guarantee the continued reign of King Hussein in Jordan? In Egypt, President Mubarak is faced with horrendous internal problems, exacerbated by accelerated population growth and economic decline. Arms continue to flow to the confrontation states (the \$21 billion in the pipeline is in addition to the \$93 billion spent on weapons by the confrontation states between 1973 and 1985) and there is no knowing whose finger will be on the trigger in Jordan, Egypt and Saudi Arabia when the Gulf war ends.

THE ONLY conclusion that can possibly be drawn from Israel's current propitious strategic situation is that this is the time to consolidate on the one hand, and actively pursue peace on the other. If the current vacuum in both these areas is not filled with productive effort, if action does not replace the illusion of strength based on short-term factors, Israel could well find itself a lot weaker before it is much older.

Peace is problematic and many say impossible. As is, undoubtedly, the hope that national responsibility will replace factionalism in Israeli politics. But it seems just as impossible that Israel can enter middle age as an embattled garrison state when it can neither keep up with the quantity or quality of arms on the other side of its borders nor hope to compete, no matter how advantageous the short-term situation, economically or demographically with our neighbours.

1986 is not 1973. But as Barbara Tuchman writes in the introduction to *The Distant Mirror*: History does not repeat itself; man repeats his mistakes.

Dry Bones



READERS' LETTERS

CHAMBER MUSIC AT COMPETITION

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — Having listened to the fifth Rubinstein piano competition in its entirety, I beg to question the opinion of Yohanan Boehm ("In the steps of the master," April 25) that "the extra round of chamber music... is a complete waste of time. One reading-through rehearsal cannot establish rapport with the participating instrumentalists."

For one thing, some of Arthur Rubinstein's most celebrated chamber music recordings stemmed from just such short, intense encounters, as documented in his biography.

For another, it is a matter of record that quite a few in the jury and the audience that jammed the auditorium considered the chamber music to be the most satisfying musically. A chance to make music with a partner who could not care less about the competitive aspect while showing plenty of goodwill and understanding brought out the best in the young contestants.

Indeed, the performances by Panayis Lyras and by Angela Cheng, with Uri Plianka, of Beethoven's violin sonatas nos. 7 and 9 respectively, as well as Hans-Christian Wille's third cello sonata with Simca Heled will be remembered as the competition's peaks, remarkable by any standards.

The international jury decided unanimously to express deep appreciation of the contributions by the violinist Uri Plianka and the cellist Simca Heled.

EMANUEL KRASOVSKY
Jury secretary
The Arthur Rubinstein
International Master
Competition
Tel Aviv.

THE HULA NATURE RESERVE

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — There is an historical inaccuracy in D'vora Ben Shaul's charming article about the Hula Nature Reserve. The Hula Lake drainage project was not "the outstanding Zionist pioneering achievement of the pre-state period." The project was, in fact, undertaken and carried through by the Israel Government in the 1950s several years after the establishment of the State of Israel in 1948.

MORRIS ALEXANDER
Tel Aviv (Chicago).

MESSAGE MISREPRESENTED

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — I am astounded at the gross misrepresentation in the article by Abraham Foxman, "To speak or not to speak" (April 28) of the work I have been doing in the United States for some years. He claims that I have been urging American Jews to press the Israeli government to change its policies. This is almost diametrically opposite to the message I have been conveying.

On my first visit to the U.S. as an independent commentator (in April 1971), I summarized my purpose at a meeting with academics in Boston: "It is not in order to criticize the government of Israel that I come to you, but to demand of you that you effectuate your right as American citizens and say to President Nixon and Secretary of State Rogers: 'Hold it! For the good of the United States too, lay off, and don't demand of Israel concessions that will jeopardize her security, because her security is also one of the conditions for the security of the United States.'"

Because it became apparent that the pattern of Israel-U.S. relations was largely one of pressure by Washington on the Israeli government to do things against its better judgment, I decided that the most important service I could render would be to persuade Americans—non-Jews as well as Jews—to use their legitimate influence with their government to stop twisting Israel's arm. This is the appeal I have made in just about every public speech in the U.S. and indeed to every group of American visitors to Israel that I have had the opportunity of addressing. It was the basis for the activities of the organization that I helped set

up, in 1971, Americans for a Safe Israel; and as recently as three weeks ago an article of mine in this spirit was published in *The Jerusalem Post* (April 11). More: I have told American Jews—including supporters of my views—that, if they want to interfere in Israeli politics, the only honourable way of doing so is to come and live in Israel and get the vote.

The most absurd claim in Mr. Foxman's article is that I "argued strenuously on visits to the U.S. that American Jews should not stand by while the Begin government endangered Israel's security"—by surrendering Sinai—"and that it was the responsibility of American Jews to speak out." It so happens that throughout the period during which the Begin government was endangering Israel's security by negotiating the surrender of Sinai, I never visited the U.S. My first visit to the U.S. after my resignation from my post in the Begin government was paid months after the peace treaty with Egypt was signed and sealed. Again, never after that did I make any such appeal to American Jews.

I wrote scores of articles on this subject between February 1978 and the signing of the peace treaty in March 1979—in *Ma'ariv* and in *The Jerusalem Post*. There is not a single word in any of them that could remotely be construed as justifying Mr. Foxman's charge.

I can understand Abe Foxman's desire to try to be "evenhanded" between on the one hand the pernicious propaganda of "Peace Now" in the U.S. (where some years ago its emissaries called on American Jews to stop contributing to the UJA as a means of pressure on the Begin government) and on the other hand pressure in the opposite direction—i.e. there is any such—on the Israeli government. But I am probably the last person in the world whom he has a right to cast for a role in his scenario.

SHMUEL KATZ
Tel Aviv.

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The Guest will be:
**H.E. The Canadian Ambassador
Mr. James K. Bartleman**

Cost of luncheon: Members—NIS 15 each; Guests—NIS 18.
Reservations with remittance should be made to the Hon. Sec.P.O.B. 16266, Tel Aviv 61162, or by phone to Mr. Furman's Secretary (C/A) (03-614394) between 9.00 a.m. and 2.00 p.m. (Sunday-Thursday).

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